### **Introduced by Assembly Member Harman**

February 10, 2005

An act to amend Section 17900 of the Business and Professions Code, to amend Sections 1113, 1152, and 1157 of, to add Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 15900) to, and to add and repeal Sections 15534 and 15724 of, the Corporations Code, relating to limited partnerships.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 339, as introduced, Harman. Limited Partnership Act of 2005. Existing law sets forth rules of organization and governance for limited partnerships.

This bill would revise and recast these provisions by enacting the Limited Partnership Act of 2005 and would repeal the existing provisions on January 1, 2008. The bill would make other related changes.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no. State-mandated local program: no.

*The people of the State of California do enact as follows:* 

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 17900 of the Business and Professions 2 Code is amended to read:
- 3 17900. (a) As used in this chapter, "fictitious business name" 4 means:
- 5 (1) In the case of an individual, a name that does not include
- 6 the surname of the individual or a name that suggests the
- existence of additional owners.

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(2) In the case of a partnership or other association of persons, other than a limited partnership that has filed a certificate of limited partnership with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 15621 or 15902.01 of the Corporations Code, a foreign limited partnership that has filed an application for registration with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 15692 of the Corporations Code or an application for certificate of authority pursuant to Section 15909.02 of the Corporations Code, a registered limited liability partnership that has filed a registration pursuant to Section 15049 or 16953 of the Corporations Code, or a foreign limited liability partnership that has filed an application for registration pursuant to Section 15055 or 16959 of the Corporations Code, a name that does not include the surname of each general partner or a name that suggests the existence of additional owners.

- (3) In the case of a corporation, any name other than the corporate name stated in its articles of incorporation.
- (4) In the case of a limited partnership that has filed a certificate of limited partnership with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 15621 or 15902.01 of the Corporations Code and in the case of a foreign limited partnership that has filed an application for registration with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 15692 of the Corporations Code or an application for certificate of authority pursuant to Section 15909.02 of the Corporations Code, any name other than the name of the limited partnership as on file with the Secretary of State.
- (5) In the case of a limited liability company, any name other than the name stated in its articles of organization and in the case of a foreign limited liability company that has filed an application for registration with the Secretary of State pursuant to Section 17451 of the Corporations Code, any name other than the name of the limited liability company as on file with the Secretary of State.
- (b) A name that suggests the existence of additional owners within the meaning of subdivision (a) is one which includes such words as "Company," "& Company," "& Son," "& Sons," "& Associates," "Brothers," and the like, but not words that merely describe the business being conducted.
- SEC. 2. Section 1113 of the Corporations Code is amended to 40 read:

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1113. (a) Any one or more corporations may merge with one or more other business entities (Section 174.5). One or more domestic corporations (Section 167) not organized under this division and one or more foreign corporations (Section 171) may be parties to the merger. Notwithstanding the provisions of this section, the merger of any number of corporations with any number of other business entities may be effected only if:

- (1) In a merger in which a domestic corporation not organized under this division or a domestic other business entity is a party, it is authorized by the laws under which it is organized to effect the merger.
- (2) In a merger in which a foreign corporation is a party, it is authorized by the laws under which it is organized to effect the merger.
- (3) In a merger in which a foreign other business entity is a party, it is authorized by the laws under which it is organized to effect the merger.
- (b) Each corporation and each other party which desires to merge shall approve, and shall be a party to, an agreement of merger. Other persons, including a parent party (Section 1200), may be parties to the agreement of merger. The board of each corporation which desires to merge, and, if required the shareholders, shall approve the agreement of merger. The agreement of merger shall be approved on behalf of each party by those persons required to approve the merger by the laws under which it is organized. The agreement of merger shall state:
  - (1) The terms and conditions of the merger.
- (2) The name and place of incorporation or organization of each party to the merger and the identity of the surviving party.
- (3) The amendments, if any, subject to Sections 900 and 907, to the articles of the surviving corporation, if applicable, to be effected by the merger. If any amendment changes the name of the surviving corporation, if applicable, the new name may be, subject to subdivision (b) of Section 201, the same as or similar to the name of a disappearing party to the merger.
- (4) The manner of converting the shares of each constituent corporation into shares, interests, or other securities of the surviving party. If any shares of any constituent corporation are not to be converted solely into shares, interests or other securities of the surviving party, the agreement of merger shall state (i) the

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cash, rights, securities, or other property which the holders of those shares are to receive in exchange for the shares, which cash, rights, securities, or other property may be in addition to or in lieu of shares, interests or other securities of the surviving party, or (ii) that the shares are canceled without consideration.

- (5) Any other details or provisions required by the laws under which any party to the merger is organized, including, if a public benefit corporation or a religious corporation is a party to the merger, Section 6019.1, or, if a mutual benefit corporation is a party to the merger, Section 8019.1, or, if a consumer cooperative corporation is a party to the merger, Section 12540.1, or, if a domestic limited partnership is a party to the merger, Section 15678.2 or Section 15911.06, or, if a domestic partnership is a party to the merger, Section 16911, or, if a domestic limited liability company is a party to the merger, Section 17551.
- (6) Any other details or provisions as are desired, including, without limitation, a provision for the payment of cash in lieu of fractional shares or for any other arrangement with respect thereto consistent with the provisions of Section 407.
- (c) Each share of the same class or series of any constituent corporation (other than the cancellation of shares held by a party to the merger or its parent, or a wholly owned subsidiary of either, in another constituent corporation) shall, unless all shareholders of the class or series consent and except as provided in Section 407, be treated equally with respect to any distribution of cash, rights, securities, or other property. Notwithstanding paragraph (4) of subdivision (b), the nonredeemable common shares of a constituent corporation may be converted only into nonredeemable common shares of a surviving corporation or a parent party (Section 1200) or nonredeemable equity securities of a surviving party other than a corporation if another party to the merger or its parent owns, directly or indirectly, prior to the merger shares of that corporation representing more than 50 percent of the voting power of that corporation, unless all of the shareholders of the class consent and except as provided in Section 407.
- (d) Notwithstanding its prior approval, an agreement of merger may be amended prior to the filing of the agreement of merger or the certificate of merger, as is applicable, if the

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amendment is approved by the board of each constituent corporation and, if the amendment changes any of the principal terms of the agreement, by the outstanding shares (Section 152), if required by Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 1200), in the same manner as the original agreement of merger. If the agreement of merger as so amended and approved is also approved by each of the other parties to the agreement of merger, the agreement of merger as so amended shall then constitute the agreement of merger.

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- (e) The board of a constituent corporation may, in its discretion, abandon a merger, subject to the contractual rights, if any, of third parties, including other parties to the agreement of merger, without further approval by the outstanding shares (Section 152), at any time before the merger is effective.
- (f) Each constituent corporation shall sign the agreement of merger by its chairperson of the board, president or a vice president and also by its secretary or an assistant secretary acting on behalf of their respective corporations.
- (g) (1) If the surviving party is a corporation or a foreign corporation, or if a public benefit corporation (Section 5060), a mutual benefit corporation (Section 5059), a religious corporation (Section 5061), or a corporation organized under the Consumer Cooperative Corporation Law (Section 12200) is a party to the merger, after required approvals of the merger by each constituent corporation through approval of the board (Section 151) and any approval of the outstanding shares (Section 152) required by Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 1200) and by the other parties to the merger, the surviving party shall file a copy of the agreement of merger with an officers' certificate of each constituent domestic and foreign corporation attached stating the total number of outstanding shares or membership interests of each class entitled to vote on the merger (and identifying any other person or persons whose approval is required), that the agreement of merger in the form attached or its principal terms, as required, were approved by that corporation by a vote of a number of shares or membership interests of each class that equaled or exceeded the vote required, specifying each class entitled to vote and the percentage vote required of each class and, if applicable, by that other person or persons whose approval is required, or that the merger agreement was entitled to

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be and was approved by the board alone (as provided in Section 2 1201, in the case of corporations subject to that section). If equity 3 securities of a parent party (Section 1200) are to be issued in the 4 merger, the officers' certificate of that controlled party shall state 5 either that no vote of the shareholders of the parent party was required or that the required vote was obtained. In lieu of an 6 7 officers' certificate, a certificate of merger, on a form prescribed 8 by the Secretary of State, shall be filed for each constituent other business entity. The certificate of merger shall be executed and 10 acknowledged by each domestic constituent limited liability 11 company by all managers of the limited liability company (unless 12 a lesser number is specified in its articles or organization or 13 operating agreement) and by each domestic constituent limited 14 partnership by all general partners (unless a lesser number is 15 provided in its certificate of limited partnership or partnership agreement) and by each domestic constituent general partnership 16 17 by two partners (unless a lesser number is provided in its 18 partnership agreement) and by each foreign constituent limited 19 liability company by one or more managers and by each foreign 20 constituent general partnership or foreign constituent limited 21 partnership by one or more general partners, and by each 22 constituent reciprocal insurer by the chairperson of the board, president, or vice president, and by the secretary or assistant 23 secretary, or, if a constituent reciprocal insurer has not appointed 24 25 those officers, by the chairperson of the board, president, or vice 26 president, and by the secretary or assistant secretary of the 27 constituent reciprocal insurer's attorney-in-fact, and by each 28 other party to the merger by those persons required or authorized 29 to execute the certificate of merger by the laws under which that 30 party is organized, specifying for that party the provision of law 31 or other basis for the authority of the signing persons. The 32 certificate of merger shall set forth, if a vote of the shareholders, members, partners, or other holders of interests of the constituent 33 34 other business entity was required, a statement setting forth the 35 total number of outstanding interests of each class entitled to vote 36 on the merger and that the agreement of merger in the form 37 attached or its principal terms, as required, were approved by a 38 vote of the number of interests of each class that equaled or 39 exceeded the vote required, specifying each class entitled to vote 40 and the percentage vote required of each class, and any other

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information required to be set forth under the laws under which 2 the constituent other business entity is organized, including, if a 3 domestic limited partnership is a party to the merger, subdivision 4 (a) of Section 15678.4 or subdivision (b) of Section 15911.08, if 5 a domestic partnership is a party to the merger, subdivision (b) of 6 Section 16915, and, if a domestic limited liability company is a 7 party to the merger, subdivision (a) of Section 17552. The 8 certificate of merger for each constituent foreign other business entity, if any, shall also set forth the statutory or other basis under 10 which that foreign other business entity is authorized by the laws 11 under which it is organized to effect the merger. The merger and 12 any amendment of the articles of the surviving corporation, if 13 applicable, contained in the agreement of merger shall be 14 effective upon filing of the agreement of merger with an officer's 15 certificate of each constituent domestic and foreign corporation 16 and a certificate of merger for each constituent other business 17 entity, subject to subdivision (c) of Section 110 and subject to the 18 provisions of subdivision (j), and the several parties thereto shall 19 be one entity. The agreement of merger shall not be filed, 20 however, until there has been filed by or on behalf of each party 21 to the merger taxed under the Bank and Corporation Tax Law, 22 the existence of which is terminated by the merger, the certificate 23 of satisfaction of the Franchise Tax Board that all taxes imposed 24 by that law have been paid or secured. If a domestic reciprocal 25 insurer organized after 1974 to provide medical malpractice 26 insurance is a party to the merger, the agreement of merger or 27 certificate of merger shall not be filed until there has been filed 28 the certificate issued by the Insurance Commissioner approving 29 the merger pursuant to Section 1555 of the Insurance Code. The 30 Secretary of State may certify a copy of the agreement of merger 31 separate from the officers' certificates and certificates of merger 32 attached thereto.

(2) If the surviving entity is an other business entity, and no public benefit corporation (Section 5060), mutual benefit corporation (Section 5059), religious corporation (Section 5061), or corporation organized under the Consumer Cooperative Corporation Law (Section 12200) is a party to the merger, after required approvals of the merger by each constituent corporation through approval of the board (Section 151) and any approval of the outstanding shares (Section 152) required by Chapter 12

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(commencing with Section 1200) and by the other parties to the merger, the parties to the merger shall file a certificate of merger 3 in the office of, and on a form prescribed by, the Secretary of 4 State. The certificate of merger shall be executed and 5 acknowledged by each constituent domestic and foreign 6 corporation by its chairperson of the board, president or a vice 7 president and also by its secretary or an assistant secretary and by 8 each domestic constituent limited liability company by all managers of the limited liability company (unless a lesser 10 number is specified in its articles of organization or operating agreement) and by each domestic constituent limited partnership 11 12 by all general partners (unless a lesser number is provided in its 13 certificate of limited partnership or partnership agreement) and by each domestic constituent general partnership by two partners 14 15 (unless a lesser number is provided in its partnership agreement) and by each foreign constituent limited liability company by one 16 17 or more managers and by each foreign constituent general 18 partnership or foreign constituent limited partnership by one or 19 more general partners, and by each constituent reciprocal insurer by the chairperson of the board, president, or vice president, and 20 21 by the secretary or assistant secretary, or, if a constituent 22 reciprocal insurer has not appointed those officers, by the 23 chairperson of the board, president, or vice president, and by the 24 secretary or assistant secretary of the constituent reciprocal 25 insurer's attorney-in-fact. The certificate of merger shall be 26 signed by each other party to the merger by those persons 27 required or authorized to execute the certificate of merger by the 28 laws under which that party is organized, specifying for that party the provision of law or other basis for the authority of the 29 30 signing persons. The certificate of merger shall set forth all of the 31 following: 32

- (A) The name, place of incorporation or organization, and the Secretary of State's file number, if any, of each party to the merger, separately identifying the disappearing parties and the surviving party.
- (B) If the approval of the outstanding shares of a constituent corporation was required by Chapter 12 (commencing with Section 1200), a statement setting forth the total number of outstanding shares of each class entitled to vote on the merger and that the principal terms of the agreement of merger were

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approved by a vote of the number of shares of each class entitled to vote and the percentage vote required of each class.

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- (C) The future effective date or time, not more than 90 days subsequent to the date of filing of the merger, if the merger is not to be effective upon the filing of the certificate of merger with the office of the Secretary of State.
- (D) A statement, by each party to the merger which is a domestic corporation not organized under this division, a foreign corporation, or an other business entity, of the statutory or other basis under which that party is authorized by the laws under which it is organized to effect the merger.
- (E) Any other information required to be stated in the certificate of merger by the laws under which each party to the merger is organized, including, if a domestic limited liability company is a party to the merger, subdivision (a) of Section 17552, if a domestic partnership is a party to the merger, subdivision (b) of Section 16915, and, if a domestic limited partnership is a party to the merger, subdivision (a) of Section 15678.4 or subdivision (b) of Section 15911.08.
  - (F) Any other details or provisions that may be desired.

Unless a future effective date or time is provided in a certificate of merger, in which event the merger shall be effective at that future effective date or time, a merger shall be effective upon the filing of the certificate of merger in the office of the Secretary of State and the several parties thereto shall be one entity. The certificate of merger shall not be filed, however, until there has been filed by or on behalf of each party to the merger that is taxed under the Bank and Corporation Tax Law, the existence of which is terminated by the merger, the certificate of satisfaction of the Franchise Tax Board that all taxes imposed by the Bank and Corporation Tax Law have been paid or secured. The surviving other business entity shall keep a copy of the agreement of merger at its principal place of business which, for purposes of this subdivision, shall be the office referred to in Section 17057 if a domestic limited liability company, at the business address specified in paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 17552 if a foreign limited liability company, at the office referred to in subdivision (a) of Section 16403 if a domestic general partnership, at the business address specified in subdivision (f) of Section 16911 if a foreign partnership, at the AB 339 -10-

office referred to in subdivision (a) of Section 15614 or in subdivision (a) of Section 15901.14 if a domestic limited partnership, or at the business address specified in paragraph (5) of subdivision (a) of Section 15678.4 or paragraph (3) of subdivision (a) of Section 15909.02 if a foreign limited partnership. Upon the request of a holder of equity securities of a party to the merger, a person with authority to do so on behalf of the surviving other business entity shall promptly deliver to that holder, a copy of the agreement of merger. A waiver by that holder of the rights provided in the foregoing sentence shall be unenforceable. If a domestic reciprocal insurer organized after 1974 to provide medical malpractice insurance is a party to the merger the agreement of merger or certificate of merger shall not be filed until there has been filed the certificate issued by the Insurance Commissioner approving the merger in accordance with Section 1555 of the Insurance Code. 

- (h) (1) A copy of an agreement of merger certified on or after the effective date by an official having custody thereof has the same force in evidence as the original and, except as against the state, is conclusive evidence of the performance of all conditions precedent to the merger, the existence on the effective date of the surviving party to the merger and the performance of the conditions necessary to the adoption of any amendment to the articles, if applicable, contained in the agreement of merger.
- (2) For all purposes for a merger in which the surviving entity is a domestic other business entity and the filing of a certificate of merger is required by paragraph (2) of subdivision (g), a copy of the certificate of merger duly certified by the Secretary of State is conclusive evidence of the merger of the constituent corporations, either by themselves or together with the other parties to the merger, into the surviving other business entity.
- (i) (1) Upon a merger pursuant to this section, the separate existences of the disappearing parties to the merger cease and the surviving party to the merger shall succeed, without other transfer, to all the rights and property of each of the disappearing parties to the merger and shall be subject to all the debts and liabilities of each in the same manner as if the surviving party to the merger had itself incurred them.
- (2) All rights of creditors and all liens upon the property of each of the constituent corporations and other parties to the

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merger shall be preserved unimpaired, provided that those liens upon property of a disappearing party shall be limited to the property affected thereby immediately prior to the time the merger is effective.

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- (3) Any action or proceeding pending by or against any disappearing corporation or disappearing party to the merger may be prosecuted to judgment, which shall bind the surviving party, or the surviving party may be proceeded against or substituted in its place.
- (4) If a limited partnership or a general partnership is a party to the merger, nothing in this section is intended to affect the liability a general partner of a disappearing limited partnership or general partnership may have in connection with the debts and liabilities of the disappearing limited partnership or general partnership existing prior to the time the merger is effective.
- (j) (1) The merger of domestic corporations with foreign corporations or foreign other business entities in a merger in which one or more other business entities is a party shall comply with subdivision (a) and this subdivision.
- (2) If the surviving party is a domestic corporation or domestic other business entity, the merger proceedings with respect to that party and any domestic disappearing corporation shall conform to the provisions of this section. If the surviving party is a foreign corporation or foreign other business entity, then, subject to the requirements of subdivision (c), and of Section 407 and Chapter (commencing with Section 1200) and Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 1300), and, if applicable, corresponding provisions of the Nonprofit Corporation Law or the Consumer Cooperative Corporation Law, with respect to any domestic constituent corporations, Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 17600) of Title 2.5 with respect to any domestic constituent limited liability companies, Article 6 (commencing with Section 16601) of Chapter 5 of Title 2 with respect to any domestic constituent general partnerships, and Article 7.6 (commencing with Section 15679.1) of Chapter 3 of Title 2 with respect to any domestic constituent limited partnerships, the merger proceedings may be in accordance with the laws of the state or place of incorporation or organization of the surviving party.

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(3) If the surviving party is a domestic corporation or domestic other business entity, the certificate of merger or the agreement of merger with attachments shall be filed as provided in subdivision (g) and thereupon, subject to subdivision (c) of Section 110 or paragraph (2) of subdivision (g), as is applicable, the merger shall be effective as to each domestic constituent corporation and domestic constituent other business entity.

- (4) If the surviving party is a foreign corporation or foreign other business entity, the merger shall become effective in accordance with the law of the jurisdiction in which the surviving party is organized, but, except as provided in paragraph (5), the merger shall be effective as to any domestic disappearing corporation as of the time of effectiveness in the foreign jurisdiction upon the filing in this state of a copy of the agreement of merger with an officers' certificate of each constituent foreign and domestic corporation and a certificate of merger of each constituent other business entity attached, which officers' certificates and certificates of merger shall conform to the requirements of paragraph (1) of subdivision (g). If one or more domestic other business entities is a disappearing party in a merger pursuant to this subdivision in which a foreign other business entity is the surviving entity, a certificate of merger required by the laws under which that domestic other business entity is organized, including subdivision (a) of Section 15678.4, subdivision (b) of Section 16915, or subdivision (a) of Section 17552, as is applicable, shall also be filed at the same time as the filing of the agreement of merger.
- (5) If the date of the filing in this state pursuant to this subdivision is more than six months after the time of the effectiveness in the foreign jurisdiction, or if the powers of a domestic disappearing corporation are suspended at the time of effectiveness in the foreign jurisdiction, the merger shall be effective as to the domestic disappearing corporation as of the date of filing in this state.
- (6) In a merger described in paragraph (3) or (4), each foreign disappearing corporation that is qualified for the transaction of intrastate business shall by virtue of the filing pursuant to this subdivision, subject to subdivision (c) of Section 110, automatically surrender its right to transact intrastate business in this state. The filing of the agreement of merger or certificate of

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merger, as is applicable, pursuant to this subdivision, by a disappearing foreign other business entity registered for the transaction of intrastate business in this state shall, by virtue of that filing, subject to subdivision (c) of Section 110, automatically cancels the registration for that foreign other business entity, without the necessity of the filing of a certificate of cancellation.

- (7) A certificate of satisfaction of the Franchise Tax Board for each disappearing party to the merger shall be filed when required by subdivision (g) or when required by Section 23334 of the Revenue and Taxation Code.
- SEC. 3. Section 1152 of the Corporations Code is amended to read:
  - 1152. (a) A corporation that desires to convert to a domestic other business entity shall approve a plan of conversion. The plan of conversion shall state all of the following:
    - (1) The terms and conditions of the conversion.

- (2) The jurisdiction of the organization of the converted entity and of the converting corporation and the name of the converted entity after conversion.
- (3) The manner of converting the shares of each of the shareholders of the converting corporation into securities of, or interests in, the converted entity.
- (4) The provisions of the governing documents for the converted entity, including the partnership agreement or limited liability company articles of organization and operating agreement, to which the holders of interests in the converted entity are to be bound.
- (5) Any other details or provisions that are required by the laws under which the converted entity is organized, or that are desired by the converting corporation.
- (b) The plan of conversion shall be approved by the board of the converting corporation (Section 151), and the principal terms of the plan of the conversion shall be approved by the outstanding shares (Section 152) of each class of the converting corporation. The approval of the outstanding shares may be given before or after approval by the board. Notwithstanding the foregoing, if a converting corporation is a close corporation, the conversion shall be approved by the affirmative vote of at least two-thirds of each class of outstanding shares of that converting

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corporation; provided, however, that the articles may provide for a lesser vote, but not less than a majority of the outstanding shares of each class.

- (c) If the corporation is converting into a general or limited partnership or into a limited liability company, then in addition to the approval of the shareholders set forth in subdivision (b), the plan of conversion shall be approved by each shareholder who will become a general partner or manager, as applicable, of the converted entity pursuant to the plan of conversion unless the shareholders have dissenters' rights pursuant to Section 1159 and Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 1300).
- (d) Upon the effectiveness of the conversion, all shareholders of the converting corporation, except those that exercise dissenters' rights as provided in Section 1159 and Chapter 13 (commencing with Section 1300), shall be deemed parties to any agreement or agreements constituting the governing documents for the converted entity adopted as part of the plan of conversion, irrespective of whether or not a shareholder has executed the plan of conversion or those governing documents for the converted entity. Any adoption of governing documents made pursuant thereto shall be effective at the effective time or date of the conversion.
- (e) Notwithstanding its prior approval by the board and the outstanding shares or either of them, a plan of conversion may be amended before the conversion takes effect if the amendment is approved by the board and, if it changes any of the principal terms of the plan of conversion, by the shareholders of the converting corporation in the same manner and to the same extent as was required for approval of the original plan of conversion.
- (f) A plan of conversion may be abandoned by the board of a converting corporation, or by the shareholders of a converting corporation if the abandonment is approved by the outstanding shares, in each case in the same manner as required for approval of the plan of conversion, subject to the contractual rights of third parties, at any time before the conversion is effective.
- (g) The converted entity shall keep the plan of conversion at (1) the principal place of business of the converted entity if the converted entity is a domestic partnership or (2) at the office at which records are to be kept under Section 15614 or Section

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15901.11 if the converted entity is a domestic limited partnership or at the office at which records are to be kept under Section 17057 if the converted entity is a domestic limited liability company. Upon the request of a shareholder of a converting corporation, the authorized person on behalf of the converted entity shall promptly deliver to the shareholder, at the expense of the converted entity, a copy of the plan of conversion. A waiver by a shareholder of the rights provided in this subdivision shall be unenforceable.

SEC. 4. Section 1157 of the Corporations Code is amended to read:

- 1157. (a) An other business entity or a foreign other business entity or a foreign corporation may be converted into a corporation pursuant to this chapter only if the converting entity is authorized by the laws under which it is organized to effect the conversion.
- (b) An other business entity or a foreign other business entity or a foreign corporation that desires to convert into a corporation shall approve a plan of conversion or other instrument as is required to be approved to effect the conversion pursuant to the laws under which that entity is organized.
- (c) The conversion of an other business entity or a foreign other business entity or a foreign corporation shall be approved by the number or percentage of the partners, members, shareholders, or other holders of interest of the converting entity that is required by the laws under which that entity is organized, or a greater or lesser percentage as may be set forth in the converting entity's partnership agreement, articles of organization, operating agreement, articles of incorporation or other governing document in accordance with applicable laws.
- (d) The conversion by an other business entity or a foreign other business entity or a foreign corporation shall be effective under this chapter upon the filing with the Secretary of State of the articles of incorporation of the converted corporation, containing a statement of conversion that complies with subdivision (e).
- (e) A statement of conversion of an entity converting into a corporation pursuant to this chapter shall set forth all of the following:

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(1) The name, form, and jurisdiction of organization of the converting entity.

- (2) The Secretary of State's file number, if any, of the converting entity.
- (3) If the converting entity is a foreign other business entity or a foreign corporation, the statement of conversion shall contain the following:
- (A) A statement that the converting entity is authorized to effect the conversion by the laws under which it is organized.
- (B) A statement that the converting entity has approved a plan of conversion or other instrument as is required to be approved to effect the conversion pursuant to the laws under which the converting entity is organized.
- (C) A statement that the conversion has been approved by the number or percentage of the partners, members, shareholders, or other holders of interest of the converting entity that is required by the laws under which that entity is organized, or a greater or lesser percentage as may be set forth in the converting entity's partnership agreement, articles of organization, operating agreement, articles of incorporation, or other governing document in accordance with applicable laws.
- (f) The filing with the Secretary of State of articles of incorporation containing a statement pursuant to subdivision (e) shall have the effect of the filing of a certificate of cancellation by a converting foreign limited liability company or foreign limited partnership, and no converting foreign limited liability company or foreign limited partnership that has made the filing is required to file a certificate of cancellation under Section 15696, Section 15909.06, or 17455 as a result of that conversion. If a converting entity is a foreign corporation qualified to transact business in this state, the foreign corporation shall, by virtue of the filing, automatically surrender its right to transact intrastate business.
- SEC. 5. Section 15534 is added to the Corporations Code, to read:
- 36 15534. This chapter shall be repealed on January 1, 2008.
- 37 SEC. 6. Section 15724 is added to the Corporations Code, to read:
- 39 15724. This chapter shall be repealed on January 1, 2008.

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SEC. 7. Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 15900) is added to Title 2 of the Corporations Code, to read:

## Chapter 1. Uniform Limited Partnership Act of 2005

#### Article 1. General Provisions

- 15900. This chapter may be cited as the Uniform Limited Partnership Act of 2005.
- 15901.02. In this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings:
- (a) "Certificate of limited partnership" means the certificate required by Section 15902.01. The term includes the certificate as amended or restated.
- (b) "Contribution," except in the phrase "right of contribution," means any benefit provided by a person to a limited partnership in order to become a partner or in the person's capacity as a partner.
- (c) "Debtor in bankruptcy" means a person that is the subject of:
- (1) an order for relief under Title 11 of the United States Code or a comparable order under a successor statute of general application; or
- (2) a comparable order under federal, state, or foreign law governing insolvency.
  - (d) "Designated office" means:
- (1) with respect to a limited partnership, the office that the limited partnership is required to designate and maintain under Section 15901.14; and
- (2) with respect to a foreign limited partnership, its principal office.
- (e) "Distribution" means a transfer of money or other property from a limited partnership to a partner in the partner's capacity as a partner or to a transferee on account of a transferable interest owned by the transferee.
- (f) "Foreign limited liability limited partnership" means a foreign limited partnership whose general partners have limited liability for the obligations of the foreign limited partnership under a provision similar to subdivision (c) of Section 15904.04.

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(g) "Foreign limited partnership" means a partnership formed under the laws of a jurisdiction other than this state and required by those laws to have one or more general partners and one or more limited partners. The term includes a foreign limited liability limited partnership.

- (h) "General partner" means:
- (1) with respect to a limited partnership, a person that:
- (A) becomes a general partner under Section 15904.01; or
- (B) was a general partner in a limited partnership when the limited partnership became subject to this chapter under subdivisions (a) or (b) of Section 15912.06; and
- (2) with respect to a foreign limited partnership, a person that has rights, powers, and obligations similar to those of a general partner in a limited partnership.
- (i) "Limited liability limited partnership," except in the phrase "foreign limited liability limited partnership," means a limited partnership whose certificate of limited partnership states that the limited partnership is a limited liability limited partnership.
  - (j) "Limited partner" means:
  - (1) with respect to a limited partnership, a person that:
  - (A) becomes a limited partner under Section 15903.01; or
- (B) was a limited partner in a limited partnership when the limited partnership became subject to this chapter under subdivisions (a) or (b) of Section 15912.06; and
- (2) with respect to a foreign limited partnership, a person that has rights, powers, and obligations similar to those of a limited partner in a limited partnership.
- (k) "Limited partnership," except in the phrases "foreign limited partnership" and "foreign limited liability limited partnership," means an entity, having one or more general partners and one or more limited partners, which is formed under this chapter by two or more persons or becomes subject to this chapter under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01) or subdivisions (a) or (b) of Section 15912.06. The term includes a limited liability limited partnership.
  - (1) "Partner" means a limited partner or general partner.
- (m) "Partnership agreement" means the partners' agreement, whether oral, implied, in a record, or in any combination, concerning the limited partnership. The term includes the agreement as amended.

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(n) "Person" means an individual, corporation, business trust, estate, trust, partnership, limited liability company, association, joint venture, government, governmental subdivision, agency or instrumentality, public corporation, or any other legal or commercial entity.

- (o) "Person dissociated as a general partner" means a person dissociated as a general partner of a limited partnership.
- (p) "Principal office" means the office where the principal executive office of a limited partnership or foreign limited partnership is located, whether or not the office is located in this State.
- (q) "Record" means information that is inscribed on a tangible medium or that is stored in an electronic or other medium and is retrievable in perceivable form.
- (r) "Required information" means the information that a limited partnership is required to maintain under Section 15901.11.
  - (s) "Sign" means:

- (1) to execute or adopt a tangible symbol with the present intent to authenticate a record; or
- (2) to attach or logically associate an electronic symbol, sound, or process to or with a record with the present intent to authenticate the record.
- (t) "State" means a state of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the United States Virgin Islands, or any territory or insular possession subject to the jurisdiction of the United States.
- (u) "Transfer" includes an assignment, conveyance, deed, bill of sale, lease, mortgage, creation of a security interest or encumbrance, gift, and transfer by operation of law.
- (v) "Transferable interest" means a partner's right to receive distributions.
- (w) "Transferee" means a person to which all or part of a transferable interest has been transferred, whether or not the transferor is a partner.
- 15901.03. (a) A person knows a fact if the person has actual knowledge of it.
  - (b) A person has notice of a fact if the person:
  - (1) knows of it:
- 40 (2) has received a notification of it;

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(3) has reason to know it exists from all of the facts known to the person at the time in question; or

- (4) has notice of it under subdivision (c) or (d).
- (c) A certificate of limited partnership on file in the office of the Secretary of State is notice that the partnership is a limited partnership and the persons designated in the certificate as general partners are general partners. Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (d), the certificate is not notice of any other act.
  - (d) A person has notice of:
- (1) another person's dissociation as a general partner, 90 days after the effective date of an amendment to the certificate of limited partnership which states that the other person has dissociated or 90 days after the effective date of a statement of dissociation pertaining to the other person, whichever occurs first;
- (2) a limited partnership's dissolution, 90 days after the effective date of an amendment to the certificate of limited partnership stating that the limited partnership is dissolved;
- (3) a limited partnership's termination, 90 days after the effective date of a statement of termination;
- (4) a limited partnership's conversion under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), 90 days after the effective date of the articles of conversion; or
- (5) a merger under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), 90 days after the effective date of the articles of merger.
- (e) A person notifies or gives a notification to another person by taking steps reasonably required to inform the other person in ordinary course, whether or not the other person learns of it.
  - (f) A person receives a notification when the notification:
  - (1) comes to the person's attention; or
- (2) is delivered at the person's place of business or at any other place held out by the person as a place for receiving communications.
- (g) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (h), a person other than an individual knows, has notice, or receives a notification of a fact for purposes of a particular transaction when the individual conducting the transaction for the person knows, has notice, or receives a notification of the fact, or in any event

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when the fact would have been brought to the individual's attention if the person had exercised reasonable diligence. A person other than an individual exercises reasonable diligence if it maintains reasonable routines for communicating significant information to the individual conducting the transaction for the person and there is reasonable compliance with the routines. Reasonable diligence does not require an individual acting for the person to communicate information unless the communication is part of the individual's regular duties or the individual has reason to know of the transaction and that the transaction would be materially affected by the information.

- (h) A general partner's knowledge, notice, or receipt of a notification of a fact relating to the limited partnership is effective immediately as knowledge of, notice to, or receipt of a notification by the limited partnership, except in the case of a fraud on the limited partnership committed by or with the consent of the general partner. A limited partner's knowledge, notice, or receipt of a notification of a fact relating to the limited partnership is not effective as knowledge of, notice to, or receipt of a notification by the limited partnership.
- 15901.04. (a) A limited partnership is an entity distinct from its partners. A limited partnership is the same entity regardless of an amendment to its certificate which adds or deletes a statement that the limited partnership is a limited liability limited partnership.
- (b) A limited partnership may be organized under this chapter for any lawful purpose.
  - (c) A limited partnership has a perpetual duration.
- 15901.05. A limited partnership has the powers to do all things necessary or convenient to carry on its activities, including the power to sue, be sued, and defend in its own name and to maintain an action against a partner for harm caused to the limited partnership by a breach of the partnership agreement or violation of a duty to the partnership.
- 15901.06. The law of this state governs relations among the partners of a limited partnership and between the partners and the limited partnership and the liability of partners as partners for an obligation of the limited partnership.

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15901.07. (a) Unless displaced by particular provisions of this chapter, the principles of law and equity supplement this chapter.

- (b) If an obligation to pay interest arises under this chapter and the rate is not specified, the rate is that specified in Section 3289 of the Civil Code.
- 15901.08. (a) The name of a limited partnership may contain the name of any partner.
- (b) The name of a limited partnership that is not a limited liability limited partnership must contain the phrase "limited partnership" or the abbreviation "L.P." or "LP" and may not contain the phrase "limited liability limited partnership" or the abbreviation "LLLP" or "L.L.P.".
- (c) The name of a limited liability limited partnership must contain the phrase "limited liability limited partnership" or the abbreviation "LLLP" or "L.L.L.P." and must not contain the abbreviation "L.P." or "LP."
- (d) Unless authorized by subdivision (e), the name of a limited partnership must be distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from:
- (1) the name of each person other than an individual incorporated, organized, or authorized to transact business in this state; and
  - (2) each name reserved under Section 15901.09.
- (e) A limited partnership may apply to the Secretary of State for authorization to use a name that does not comply with subdivision (d). The Secretary of State shall authorize use of the name applied for if, as to each conflicting name:
- (1) the present user, registrant, or owner of the conflicting name consents in a signed record to the use and submits an undertaking in a form satisfactory to the Secretary of State to change the conflicting name to a name that complies with subdivision (d) and is distinguishable in the records of the Secretary of State from the name applied for;
- (2) the applicant delivers to the Secretary of State a certified copy of the final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction establishing the applicant's right to use in this state the name applied for; or

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(3) the applicant delivers to the Secretary of State proof satisfactory to the Secretary of State that the present user, registrant, or owner of the conflicting name:

(A) has merged into the applicant;

- (B) has been converted into the applicant; or
- (C) has transferred substantially all of its assets, including the conflicting name, to the applicant.
- (f) Subject to Section 15909.05, this Section applies to any foreign limited partnership transacting business in this State, having a certificate of authority to transact business in this State, or applying for a certificate of authority.
- (g) The name of a limited partnership may not contain the words "bank," "insurance," "trust," "trustee," "incorporated," "inc.," "corporation" or "corp.".
- 15901.09. (a) The exclusive right to the use of a name that complies with Section 15901.08 may be reserved by:
- (1) a person intending to organize a limited partnership under this chapter and to adopt the name;
- (2) a limited partnership or a foreign limited partnership authorized to transact business in this state intending to adopt the name;
- (3) a foreign limited partnership intending to obtain a certificate of authority to transact business in this state and adopt the name;
- (4) a person intending to organize a foreign limited partnership and intending to have it obtain a certificate of authority to transact business in this state and adopt the name;
  - (5) a foreign limited partnership formed under the name; or
- (6) a foreign limited partnership formed under a name that does not comply with subdivisions (b) or (c) of Section 15901.08, but the name reserved under this paragraph may differ from the foreign limited partnership's name only to the extent necessary to comply with subdivisions (b) or (c) of Section 15901.08.
- (b) A person may apply to reserve a name under subdivision (a) by delivering to the Secretary of State an application that states the name to be reserved and the paragraph of subdivision (a) which applies. If the Secretary of State finds that the name is available for use by the applicant, the Secretary of State shall

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issue a statement of name reservation and thereby reserve the name for the exclusive use of the applicant for a 120 days.

- (c) An applicant that has reserved a name pursuant to subdivision (b) may reserve the same name for additional 120-day periods. A person having a current reservation for a name may not apply for another 120-day period for the same name until 90 days have elapsed in the current reservation.
- (d) A person that has reserved a name under this Section may transfer the reserved name to another person, effective upon delivery to the Secretary of State of a notice of transfer that states the reserved name, the name and street and mailing address of the person to which the reservation is to be transferred, and the paragraph of subdivision (a) which applies to the other person.
- 15901.10. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), the partnership agreement governs relations among the partners and between the partners and the partnership. To the extent the partnership agreement does not otherwise provide, this chapter governs relations among the partners and between the partners and the partnership.
  - (b) A partnership agreement may not:
- (1) vary a limited partnership's power under Section 15901.05 to sue, be sued, and defend in its own name;
- (2) vary the law applicable to a limited partnership under Section 15901.06;
  - (3) vary the requirements of Section 15902.04;
- (4) vary the information required under Section 15901.11 or unreasonably restrict the right to information under Section 15903.04 or 15904.07, but the partnership agreement may impose reasonable restrictions on the availability and use of information obtained under those sections and may define appropriate remedies, including liquidated damages, for a breach of any reasonable restriction on use;
- (5) eliminate the duty of loyalty under Section 15904.08, but the partnership agreement may:
- (A) identify specific types or categories of activities that do not violate the duty of loyalty, if not manifestly unreasonable; and
- (B) specify the number or percentage of partners which may authorize or ratify, after full disclosure to all partners of all

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material facts, a specific act or transaction that otherwise would violate the duty of loyalty;

- (6) unreasonably reduce the duty of care under subdivision (c) of Section 15904.08;
- (7) eliminate the obligation of good faith and fair dealing under subdivision (b) of Section 15903.05 and subdivision (d) of Section 15904.08, but the partnership agreement may prescribe the standards by which the performance of the obligation is to be measured, if the standards are not manifestly unreasonable;
- (8) vary the power of a person to dissociate as a general partner under subdivision (a) of Section 15906.04 except to require that the notice under subdivision (a) of Section 15906.03 be in a record:
- (9) eliminate the power of a court to decree dissolution in the circumstances specified in subdivision (a) of Section 15908.02;
- (10) vary the requirement to wind up the partnership's business as specified in Section 15908.03;
- (11) unreasonably restrict the right to maintain an action under Article 10 (commencing with Section 15910.01);
- (12) restrict the right of a partner under subdivision (a) of Section 15911.10 to approve a conversion or merger or the right of a general partner under subdivision (b) of Section 15911.10 to consent to an amendment to the certificate of limited partnership which deletes a statement that the limited partnership is a limited liability limited partnership;
- (13) vary the provisions of Article 11.5 (commencing with Section 15911.14), except to the extent expressly permitted by such provisions; or
- (14) restrict rights under this chapter of a person other than a partner or a transferee.
- 15901.11. A limited partnership shall maintain at its designated office the following information:
- (1) a current list showing the full name and last known street and mailing address of each partner, separately identifying the general partners, in alphabetical order, and the limited partners, in alphabetical order;
- (2) a copy of the initial certificate of limited partnership and all amendments to and restatements of the certificate, together with signed copies of any powers of attorney under which any certificate, amendment, or restatement has been signed;

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(3) a copy of any filed articles of conversion or merger;

- (4) a copy of the limited partnership's federal, state, and local income tax returns and reports, if any, for the six most recent years;
- (5) a copy of any partnership agreement made in a record and any amendment made in a record to any partnership agreement;
- (6) a copy of any financial statement of the limited partnership for the six most recent years;
- (7) a copy of any record made by the limited partnership during the past three years of any consent given by or vote taken of any partner pursuant to this chapter or the partnership agreement; and
- (8) unless contained in a partnership agreement made in a record, a record stating:
- (A) the amount of cash, and a description and statement of the agreed value of the other benefits, contributed and agreed to be contributed by each partner;
- (B1) the times at which, or events on the happening of which, any additional contributions agreed to be made by each partner are to be made;
- (C) for any person that is both a general partner and a limited partner, a specification of what transferable interest the person owns in each capacity; and
- (D) any events upon the happening of which the limited partnership is to be dissolved and its activities wound up.
- 15901.12. A partner may lend money to and transact other business with the limited partnership and has the same rights and obligations with respect to the loan or other transaction as a person that is not a partner.
- 15901.13. A person may be both a general partner and a limited partner. A person that is both a general and limited partner has the rights, powers, duties, and obligations provided by this chapter and the partnership agreement in each of those capacities. When the person acts as a general partner, the person is subject to the obligations, duties and restrictions under this chapter and the partnership agreement for general partners. When the person acts as a limited partner, the person is subject to the obligations, duties and restrictions under this chapter and the partnership agreement for limited partners.

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15901.14. (a) A limited partnership shall designate and continuously maintain in this state:

- (1) an office, which need not be a place of its activity in this state; and
  - (2) an agent for service of process.

- (b) A foreign limited partnership shall designate and continuously maintain in this state an agent for service of process. (c) An agent for service of process of a limited partnership or foreign limited partnership must be an individual who is a resident of this state or other person authorized to do business in this state.
- 15901.15. (a) In order to change its designated office, agent for service of process, or the address of its agent for service of process, a limited partnership or a foreign limited partnership may deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change containing:
- (1) the name of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership;
- (2) the street and mailing address of its current designated office;
- (3) if the current designated office is to be changed, the street and mailing address of the new designated office;
- (4) the name and street and mailing address of its current agent for service of process; and
- (5) if the current agent for service of process or an address of the agent is to be changed, the new information.
- (b) Subject to subdivision (c) of Section 15902.06, a statement of change is effective when filed by the Secretary of State.
- 15901.16. (a) In order to resign as an agent for service of process of a limited partnership or foreign limited partnership, the agent must deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of resignation containing the name of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership.
- (b) After receiving a statement of resignation, the Secretary of State shall file it and mail a copy to the designated office of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership and another copy to the principal office if the address of the office appears in the records of the Secretary of State and is different from the address of the designated office.

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(c) An agency for service of process is terminated on the 31st day after the Secretary of State files the statement of resignation.

15901.17. (a) An agent for service of process appointed by a limited partnership or foreign limited partnership is an agent of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership for service of any process, notice, or demand required or permitted by law to be served upon the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership.

- (b) If a limited partnership or foreign limited partnership does not appoint or maintain an agent for service of process in this state or the agent for service of process cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the agent's address, the Secretary of State is an agent of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership upon whom process, notice, or demand may be served.
- (c) Service of any process, notice, or demand on the Secretary of State may be made by delivering to and leaving with the Secretary of State duplicate copies of the process, notice, or demand. If a process, notice, or demand is served on the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State shall forward one of the copies by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, to the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership at its designated office.
  - (d) Service is effected under subdivision (c) at the earliest of:
- (1) the date the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership receives the process, notice, or demand;
- (2) the date shown on the return receipt, if signed on behalf of the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership; or
- (3) five days after the process, notice, or demand is deposited in the mail, if mailed postpaid and correctly addressed.
- (e) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of each process, notice, and demand served pursuant to this section and record the time of, and the action taken regarding, the service.
- (f) This section does not affect the right to serve process, notice, or demand in any other manner provided by law.
- 15901.18. Action requiring the consent of partners under this chapter may be taken without a meeting, and a partner may appoint a proxy to consent or otherwise act for the partner by signing an appointment record, either personally or by the partner's attorney in fact.

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15901.19. (a) In addition to Chapter 4 (commencing with Section 413.10) of Title 5 of Part 2 of the Code of Civil Procedure, process may be served upon limited partnerships and foreign limited partnerships as provided in this Section.

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(b) Personal service of a copy of any process against the limited partnership or the foreign limited partnership by delivery (1) to any individual designated by it as agent or, if a limited partnership, to any general partner or (2) if the designated agent or, if a limited partnership, general partner is a corporation, to any person named in the latest certificate of the corporate agent filed pursuant to Section 1505 of the Corporations Code at the office of the corporate agent or to any officer of the general partner, shall constitute valid service on the limited partnership or the foreign limited partnership. No change in the address of the agent for service of process or appointment of a new agent for service of process shall be effective (1) for a limited partnership until an amendment to the certificate of limited partnership is filed or (2) for a foreign limited partnership until an amendment to the application for certificate of authority is filed. In the case of a foreign limited partnership that has appointed the Secretary of State as agent for service of process by reason of subdivision (e) of Section 15909.07, process shall be delivered by hand to the Secretary of State, or to any person employed in the capacity of assistant or deputy, which shall be one copy of the process for each defendant to be served, together with a copy of the court order authorizing the service and the fee therefor. The order shall include and set forth an address to which such process shall be sent by the Secretary of State.

(c) (1) If an agent for service of process has resigned and has not been replaced or if the agent designated cannot with reasonable diligence be found at the address designated for personal delivery of the process, and it is shown by affidavit to the satisfaction of the court that process against a limited partnership or foreign limited partnership cannot be served with reasonable diligence upon the designated agent or, if a foreign limited partnership, upon any general partner by hand in the manner provided in Section 415.10, subdivision (a) of Section 415.20 or subdivision (a) of Section 415.30, of the Code of Civil Procedure, the court may make an order that the service shall be made upon a domestic limited partnership which has filed a

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certificate or upon a foreign limited partnership which has a certificate of authority to transact business in this State by delivering by hand to the Secretary of State, or to any person employed in the Secretary of State's office in the capacity of assistant or deputy, one copy of the process for each defendant to be served, together with a copy of the order authorizing the service. Service in this manner shall be deemed complete on the 10th day after delivery of the process to the Secretary of State.

- (2) Upon receipt of any such copy of process and the fee therefor, the Secretary of State shall give notice of the service of the process to the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership, at its principal executive office, by forwarding to that office, by registered mail with request for return receipt, the copy of the process.
- (3) The Secretary of State shall keep a record of all process served upon the Secretary of State under this chapter and shall record therein the time of service and the Secretary of State's action with reference thereto. A certificate under the Secretary of State's official seal, certifying to the receipt of process, the giving of notice thereof to the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership, and the forwarding of the process pursuant to this section, shall be competent and prima facie evidence of the matters stated therein.
- (d) (1) The certificate of a limited partnership and the application for a certificate of authority of a foreign limited partnership shall designate, as the agent for service of process, an individual residing in this state or a corporation which has complied with Section 1505 of the Corporations Code and whose capacity to act as an agent has not terminated. If an individual is designated, the statement shall set forth that person's complete business or residence address in this state.
- (2) An agent designated for service of process may file with the Secretary of State a signed and acknowledged written statement of resignation as an agent. Thereupon the authority of the agent to act in that capacity shall cease and the Secretary of State forthwith shall give written notice of the filing of the statement of resignation by mail to the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership addressed to its principal executive office.

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(3) If an individual who has been designated agent for service of process dies or resigns or no longer resides in the state or if the corporate agent for that purpose, resigns, dissolves, withdraws from the state, forfeits its right to transact intrastate business, has its corporate rights, powers and privileges suspended or ceases to exist, (A) the limited partnership shall promptly file an amendment to the certificate designating a new agent or (B) the foreign limited partnership shall promptly file an amendment to the application for certificate of authority.

(e) In addition to any other discovery rights which may exist, in any case pending in a California court having jurisdiction in which a party seeks records from a partnership formed under this chapter, whether or not the partnership is a party, the court shall have the power to order the production in California of the books and records of the partnership on the terms and conditions that the court deems appropriate.

15901.20. (a) A partner may, in a written partnership agreement or other writing, consent to be subject to the nonexclusive jurisdiction of the courts of a specified jurisdiction, or the exclusive jurisdiction of the courts of this state.

- (b) If a partner desires to use the arbitration process, that partner may in a written partnership agreement or other writing, consent to be nonexclusively subject to arbitration in a specified state, or to be exclusively subject to arbitration in this state.
- (c) Along with this consent to the jurisdiction of courts or arbitration, a partner may consent to be served with legal process in the manner prescribed in the partnership agreement or other writing.

# Article 2. Formation; Certificate of Limited Partnership and Other Filings

15902.01. (a) In order for a limited partnership to be formed, a certificate of limited partnership must be filed by the Secretary of State and, either before or after the filing of a certificate of limited partnership, the partners shall have entered into a partnership agreement. The certificate must state:

(1) the name of the limited partnership, which must comply with Section 15901.08;

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 (2) the street and mailing address of the initial designated office and the name and street and mailing address of the initial agent for service of process;

- (3) the name and the street and mailing address of each general partner;
- (4) whether the limited partnership is a limited liability limited partnership; and
- (5) any additional information required by Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01).
- (b) A certificate of limited partnership may also contain any other matters but may not vary or otherwise affect the provisions specified in subdivision (b) of Section 15901.10 in a manner inconsistent with that section.
- (c) If there has been substantial compliance with subdivision (a), subject to subdivision (c) of Section 15902.06 a limited partnership is formed when the Secretary of State files the certificate of limited partnership.
- (d) Subject to subdivision (b), if any provision of a partnership agreement is inconsistent with the filed certificate of limited partnership or with a filed statement of dissociation, termination, or change or filed articles of conversion or merger:
- (1) the partnership agreement prevails as to partners and transferees; and
- (2) the filed certificate of limited partnership, statement of dissociation, termination, or change or articles of conversion or merger prevail as to persons, other than partners and transferees, that reasonably rely on the filed record to their detriment.
- (e) A limited partnership may record in the office of the county recorder of any county in this state a certified copy of the certificate of limited partnership, or any amendment thereto, which has been filed by the Secretary of State. A foreign limited partnership may record in the office of the county recorder of any county in the state a certified copy of the application for authority to transact business, together with the certificate of authority, referred to in Section 15909.02, or any amendment thereto, which has been filed by the Secretary of State. The recording shall create a conclusive presumption in favor of any bona fide purchaser or encumbrancer for value of the partnership real property located in the county in which the certified copy has been recorded, that the persons named as general partners therein

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are the general partners of the partnership named and that they are all of the general partners of the partnership.

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- (f) The Secretary of State may cancel the filing of certificates of limited partnership if a check or other remittance accepted in payment of the filing fee is not paid upon presentation. For partners and transferees, the partnership agreement is paramount. Upon receiving written notification that the item presented for payment has not been honored for payment, the Secretary of State shall give a first written notice of the applicability of this Section to the agent for service of process or to the person submitting the instrument. Thereafter, if the amount has not been paid by cashier's check or equivalent, the Secretary of State shall give a second written notice of cancellation and the cancellation shall thereupon be effective. The second notice shall be given 20 days or more after the first notice and 90 days or less after the original filing.
- (g) The Secretary of State shall include with instructional materials, provided in conjunction with the form for filing a certificate of limited partnership under subdivision (a), a notice that the filing of the certificate of limited partnership will obligate the limited partnership to pay an annual tax for that taxable year to the Franchise Tax Board pursuant to Section 17935 of the Revenue and Taxation Code. That notice shall be updated annually to specify the dollar amount of the annual tax.
- 15902.02. (a) In order to amend its certificate of limited partnership, a limited partnership must deliver to the Secretary of State for filing an amendment or, pursuant to Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), articles of merger stating:
- (1) the name and the Secretary of State's file number of the limited partnership;
  - (2) the date of filing of its initial certificate; and
- (3) the changes the amendment makes to the certificate as most recently amended or restated.
- (b) A limited partnership shall promptly deliver to the Secretary of State for filing an amendment to a certificate of limited partnership to reflect:
- (1) the admission of a new general partner;
- (2) the dissociation of a person as a general partner; or

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(3) the appointment of a person to wind up the limited partnership's activities under subdivisions (c) or (d) of Section 15908.03.

- (c) A general partner that knows that any information in a filed certificate of limited partnership was false when the certificate was filed or has become false due to changed circumstances shall promptly:
  - (1) cause the certificate to be amended; or
- (2) if appropriate, deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change pursuant to Section 15901.15 or a statement of correction pursuant to Section 15902.07.
- (d) A certificate of limited partnership may be amended at any time for any other proper purpose as determined by the limited partnership.
- (e) A restated certificate of limited partnership may be delivered to the Secretary of State for filing in the same manner as an amendment.
- (f) Subject to subdivision (c) of Section 15902.06, an amendment or restated certificate is effective when filed by the Secretary of State.
- 15902.03. A dissolved limited partnership that has completed winding up may deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of termination that states:
- (1) the name of the limited partnership and the Secretary of State's file number;
- (2) the date of filing of its initial certificate of limited partnership; and
- (3) any other information as determined by the general partners filing the statement or by a person appointed pursuant to subdivisions (c) or (d) of Section 15908.03.
- 15902.04. (a) Each record delivered to the Secretary of State for filing pursuant to this chapter must be signed in the following manner:
- (1) An initial certificate of limited partnership must be signed by all general partners listed in the certificate.
- (2) An amendment adding or deleting a statement that the limited partnership is a limited liability partnership must be signed by all general partners listed in the certificate.
- 39 (3) An amendment designating as general partner a person 40 admitted under paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section

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15908.01 following the dissociation of a limited partnership's last general partner must be signed by that person.

- (4) An amendment required by subdivision (c) of Section 15908.03 following the appointment of a person to wind up the dissolved limited partnership's activities must be signed by that person.
  - (5) Any other amendment must be signed by:

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- (A) at least one general partner listed in the certificate;
- (B) each other person designated in the amendment as a new general partner; and
- (C) each person that the amendment indicates has dissociated as a general partner, unless:
- (i) the person is deceased or a guardian or general conservator has been appointed for the person and the amendment so states; or
- (ii) the person has previously delivered to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of dissociation.
- (6) A restated certificate of limited partnership must be signed by at least one general partner listed in the certificate, and, to the extent the restated certificate effects a change under any other paragraph of this subdivision, the certificate must be signed in a manner that satisfies that paragraph.
- (7) A statement of termination must be signed by all general partners listed in the certificate or, if the certificate of a dissolved limited partnership lists no general partners, by the person appointed pursuant to subdivisions (c) or (d) of Section 15908.03 to wind up the dissolved limited partnership's activities.
- (8) Articles of conversion must be signed by each general partner listed in the certificate of limited partnership.
- (9) Articles of merger must be signed as provided in subdivision (a) of Section 15911.08.
- (10) Any other record delivered on behalf of a limited partnership to the Secretary of State for filing must be signed by at least one general partner listed in the certificate.
- (11) A statement by a person pursuant to paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 15906.05 stating that the person has dissociated as a general partner must be signed by that person.
- 38 (12) A statement of withdrawal by a person pursuant to Section 15903.06 must be signed by that person.

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(13) A record delivered on behalf of a foreign limited partnership to the Secretary of State for filing must be signed by at least one general partner of the foreign limited partnership.

- (14) Any other record delivered on behalf of any person to the Secretary of State for filing must be signed by that person.
- (b) Any person may sign by an attorney in fact any record to be filed pursuant to this chapter.

15902.05. (a) If a person required by this chapter to sign a record or deliver a record to the Secretary of State for filing does not do so, any other person that is aggrieved may petition the superior court to order:

- (1) the person to sign the record;
- (2) deliver the record to the Secretary of State for filing; or
- (3) the Secretary of State to file the record unsigned.
- (b) If the person aggrieved under subdivision (a) is not the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership to which the record pertains, the aggrieved person shall make the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership a party to the action. A person aggrieved under subdivision (a) may seek the remedies provided in subdivision (a) in the same action in combination or in the alternative. In any action under this subdivision, if the court finds the failure of the person to comply with the requirement to sign a record or deliver a record to the Secretary of State for filing to have been without justification, the court may award an amount sufficient to reimburse the persons aggrieved under subdivision (a) bringing the action for the reasonable expenses incurred by such persons, including attorneys' fees, in connection with the action or proceeding.
- (c) A record filed unsigned pursuant to this section is effective without being signed.
- (d) Any person, other than a general partner, delivering a record to the Secretary of State for filing, shall state the statutory authority for such action after the signature on the appropriate record.

15902.06. (a) A record authorized or required to be delivered to the Secretary of State for filing under this chapter must be captioned to describe the record's purpose, be in a medium permitted by the Secretary of State, and be delivered to the Secretary of State. Unless the Secretary of State determines that a record does not comply with the filing requirements of this

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1 chapter, and if all filing fees have been paid, the Secretary of 2 State shall file the record and:

(1) for a statement of dissociation, send:

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- (A) a copy of the filed statement and a receipt for the fees to the person which the statement indicates has dissociated as a general partner; and
- (B) a copy of the filed statement and receipt to the limited partnership;
  - (2) for a statement of withdrawal, send:
- (A) a copy of the filed statement and a receipt for the fees to the person on whose behalf the record was filed; and
- (B) if the statement refers to an existing limited partnership, a copy of the filed statement and receipt to the limited partnership; and
- (3) for all other records, send a copy of the filed record and a receipt for the fees to the person on whose behalf the record was filed.
- (b) Upon request and payment of the fee set forth in Government Code Section 12183, the Secretary of State shall send to the requestor a certified copy of the requested record.
- (c) Except as otherwise provided in Sections 15901.16 and 15902.07, a record delivered to the Secretary of State for filing under this chapter may specify an effective time and a delayed effective date. Except as otherwise provided in this chapter, a record filed by the Secretary of State is effective:
- (1) if the record does not specify an effective time and does not specify a delayed effective date, on the date and at the time the record is filed as evidenced by the Secretary of State's endorsement of the date and time on the record;
- (2) if the record specifies an effective time but not a delayed effective date, on the date the record is filed at the time specified in the record;
- 33 (3) if the record specifies a delayed effective date but not an effective time, at 12:01 a.m. on the earlier of:
  - (A) the specified date; or
  - (B) the 90th day after the record is filed; or
- 37 (4) if the record specifies an effective time and a delayed 38 effective date, at the specified time on the earlier of:
- 39 (A) the specified date; or
- 40 (B) the 90th day after the record is filed.

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(d) In case a delayed effective date is specified, the record may be prevented from becoming effective by a certificate stating that by appropriate action it has been revoked and is null and void, executed in the same manner as the original record and delivered to the Secretary of State for filing before the specified effective date. In the case of articles of merger, a certificate revoking the earlier filing need only be executed on behalf of one of the constituent parties to the merger. If no such revocation certificate is filed, the record becomes effective on the date specified.

(e) If the Secretary of State determines that a record delivered to the Secretary of State for filing does not conform to the law and returns it to the person delivering it, the record may be resubmitted accompanied by a written opinion of the member of the State Bar of California delivering the record or representing the person delivering it, to the effect that the specific provisions of the record objected to by the Secretary of State do conform to law and stating the points and authorities upon which the opinion is based. The Secretary of State shall rely, with respect to any disputed point of law, other than the application of Sections 15901.08, 15901.09, 15909.02, and 15909.05, upon that written opinion in determining whether the record conforms to law. When filed by the Secretary of State upon resubmission, such record is effective retroactively as of the date that the original record was delivered to the Secretary of State for filing.

15902.07. (a) A limited partnership or foreign limited partnership may deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of correction to correct a record previously delivered by the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership to the Secretary of State and filed by the Secretary of State, if at the time of filing the record contained false or erroneous information or was defectively signed.

- (b) A statement of correction may not state a delayed effective date and must:
- (1) describe the record to be corrected, including its filing date, or attach a copy of the record as filed;
- (2) specify the incorrect information and the reason it is incorrect or the manner in which the signing was defective; and
  - (3) correct the incorrect information or defective signature.
- (c) When filed by the Secretary of State, a statement of correction is effective retroactively as of the effective date of the

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1 record the statement corrects, but the statement is effective when 2 filed:

- (1) for the purposes of subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 15901.03; and
- (2) as to persons relying on the uncorrected record and adversely affected by the correction.
- 15902.08. (a) If a record delivered to the Secretary of State for filing under this chapter and filed by the Secretary of State contains false information, a person that suffers loss by reliance on the information may recover damages for the loss from:
- (1) a person that signed the record, or caused another to sign it on the person's behalf, and knew the information to be false at the time the record was signed; and
- (2) a general partner that has notice that the information was false when the record was filed or has become false because of changed circumstances, if the general partner has notice for a reasonably sufficient time before the information is relied upon to enable the general partner to effect an amendment under Section 15902.02, file a petition pursuant to Section 15902.05, or deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of change pursuant to Section 15901.15 or a statement of correction pursuant to Section 15902.07.
- (b) Signing a record authorized or required to be filed under this chapter constitutes an affirmation under the penalties of perjury that the facts stated in the record are true.
- 15902.09. (a) The Secretary of State, upon request and payment of the requisite fee, shall furnish a certificate of existence for a limited partnership if the records filed in the office of the Secretary of State show that the Secretary of State has filed a certificate of limited partnership and has not filed a statement of termination. A certificate of existence must state:
  - (1) the limited partnership's name;
- (2) that it was duly formed under the laws of this state and the date of formation;
  - (3) whether all fees, taxes, and penalties due to the Secretary of State under this chapter or other law have been paid;
- 37 (4) whether the Secretary of State has administratively 38 dissolved the limited partnership;

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(5) whether the limited partnership's certificate of limited partnership has been amended to state that the limited partnership is dissolved;

- (6) that a statement of termination has not been filed by the Secretary of State; and
- (7) other facts of record in the office of the Secretary of State which may be requested by the applicant.
- (b) The Secretary of State, upon request and payment of the requisite fee, shall furnish a certificate of authorization for a foreign limited partnership if the records filed in the office of the Secretary of State show that the Secretary of State has filed a certificate of authority, has not revoked the certificate of authority, and has not filed a notice of cancellation. A certificate of authorization must state:
- (1) the foreign limited partnership's name and any alternate name adopted under subdivision (a) of Section 15909.05 for use in this state;
  - (2) that it is authorized to transact business in this state;
- (3) whether all fees, taxes, and penalties due to the Secretary of State under this chapter or other law have been paid;
- (4) that the Secretary of State has not revoked its certificate of authority and has not filed a notice of cancellation; and
- (5) other facts of record in the office of the Secretary of State which may be requested by the applicant.
- (c) Subject to any qualification stated in the certificate, a certificate of existence or authorization issued by the Secretary of State may be relied upon as conclusive evidence that the limited partnership or foreign limited partnership is in existence or is authorized to transact business in this state

### Article 3. Limited Partners

15903.01. A person becomes a limited partner:

- (a) as provided in the partnership agreement;
- (b) as the result of a conversion or merger under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01); or
  - (c) with the consent of all the partners.
- 15903.02. A limited partner does not have the right or the power as a limited partner to act for or bind the limited partnership.

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15903.03. An obligation of a limited partnership, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise, is not the obligation of a limited partner. A limited partner is not personally liable, directly or indirectly, by way of contribution or otherwise, for an obligation of the limited partnership solely by reason of being a limited partner, even if the limited partner participates in the management and control of the limited partnership.

- 15903.04. (a) On 10 days' demand, made in a record received by the limited partnership, a limited partner may inspect and copy required information during regular business hours in the limited partnership's designated office. The limited partner need not have any particular purpose for seeking the information.
- (b) Subject to subdivision (g), during regular business hours and at a reasonable location specified by the limited partnership, a limited partner may obtain from the limited partnership and inspect and copy true and full information regarding the state of the activities and financial condition of the limited partnership and other information regarding the activities of the limited partnership as is just and reasonable if:
- (1) the limited partner seeks the information for a purpose reasonably related to the partner's interest as a limited partner;
- (2) the limited partner makes a demand in a record received by the limited partnership, describing with reasonable particularity the information sought and the purpose for seeking the information; and
- (3) the information sought is directly connected to the limited partner's purpose.
- (c) Within 10 days after receiving a demand pursuant to subdivision (b), the limited partnership in a record shall inform the limited partner that made the demand:
- (1) what information the limited partnership will provide in response to the demand;
- (2) when and where the limited partnership will provide the information; and
- (3) if the limited partnership declines to provide any demanded information, the limited partnership's reasons for declining.
- (d) Subject to subdivision (f), a person dissociated as a limited partner may inspect and copy required information during regular business hours in the limited partnership's designated office if:

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1 (1) the information pertains to the period during which the 2 person was a limited partner;

- (2) the person seeks the information in good faith; and
- (3) the person meets the requirements of subdivision (b).
- (e) The limited partnership shall respond to a demand made pursuant to subdivision (d) in the same manner as provided in subdivision (c).
  - (f) If a limited partner dies, Section 15907.04 applies.
- (g) The limited partnership shall have the right to keep confidential from limited partners for such period of time as the limited partnership deems reasonable, any information which the limited partnership reasonably believes to be in the nature of trade secrets or other information the disclosure of which the limited partnership in good faith believes is not in the best interest of the limited partnership or could damage the limited partnership or its business or which the limited partnership is required by law or by agreement with a third party to keep confidential.
- (h) The limited partnership may impose reasonable restrictions on the use of information obtained under this section. In a dispute concerning the reasonableness of a restriction under this subdivision, the limited partnership has the burden of proving reasonableness.
- (i) A limited partnership may charge a person that makes a demand under this section reasonable costs of copying, limited to the costs of labor and material.
- (j) Whenever this chapter or a partnership agreement provides for a limited partner to give or withhold consent to a matter, before the consent is given or withheld, the limited partnership shall, without demand, provide the limited partner with all information material to the limited partner's decision that the limited partnership knows.
- (k) A limited partner or person dissociated as a limited partner may exercise the rights under this section through an attorney or other agent. Any restriction imposed under subdivision (g), subdivision (h) or by the partnership agreement applies both to the attorney or other agent and to the limited partner or person dissociated as a limited partner.
- (1) The rights stated in this section do not extend to a person as transferee, but may be exercised by the legal representative of an

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individual under legal disability who is a limited partner or person dissociated as a limited partner.

- 15903.05. (a) A limited partner does not have any fiduciary duty to the limited partnership or to any other partner solely by reason of being a limited partner.
- (b) A limited partner shall discharge the duties to the partnership and the other partners under this chapter or under the partnership agreement and exercise any rights consistently with the obligation of good faith and fair dealing.
- (c) A limited partner does not violate a duty or obligation under this chapter or under the partnership agreement merely because the limited partner's conduct furthers the limited partner's own interest.
- 15903.06. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b), a person that makes an investment in a business enterprise and erroneously but in good faith believes that the person has become a limited partner in the enterprise is not liable for the enterprise's obligations by reason of making the investment, receiving distributions from the enterprise, or exercising any rights of or appropriate to a limited partner, if, on ascertaining the mistake, the person:
- (1) causes an appropriate certificate of limited partnership, amendment, or statement of correction to be signed and delivered to the Secretary of State for filing; or
- (2) withdraws from future participation as an owner in the enterprise by signing and delivering to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of withdrawal under this Section.
- (b) A person that makes an investment described in subdivision (a) is liable to the same extent as a general partner to any third party that enters into a transaction with the enterprise, believing in good faith that the person is a general partner, before the Secretary of State files a statement of withdrawal, certificate of limited partnership, amendment, or statement of correction to show that the person is not a general partner.
- (c) If a person makes a diligent effort in good faith to comply with paragraph (1) of subdivision (a) and is unable to cause the appropriate certificate of limited partnership, amendment, or statement of correction to be signed and delivered to the Secretary of State for filing, the person has the right to withdraw from the enterprise pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a)

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even if the withdrawal would otherwise breach an agreement with others that are or have agreed to become co-owners of the enterprise.

- 15903.07. (a) partnership agreement may provide for the creation of classes of limited partners. The partnership agreement shall define the rights, powers, and duties of those classes, including rights, powers, and duties senior to other classes of limited partners.
- (b) The partnership agreement may provide to all or certain specified classes of limited partners the right to vote separately or with all or any class or the general partners on any matter.

Article 4. General Partners

15904.01. A person becomes a general partner:

- (a) as provided in the partnership agreement:
- (b) under paragraph (2) of subdivision (c) of Section 15908.01 following the dissociation of a limited partnership's last general partner;
- (c) as the result of a conversion or merger under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01); or
  - (d) with the consent of all the partners.
- 15904.02. (a) Each general partner is an agent of the limited partnership for the purposes of its activities. An act of a general partner, including the signing of a record in the partnership's name, for apparently carrying on in the ordinary course the limited partnership's activities or activities of the kind carried on by the limited partnership binds the limited partnership, unless the general partner did not have authority to act for the limited partnership in the particular matter and the person with which the general partner was dealing knew, had received a notification, or had notice under subdivision (d) of Section 15901.03 that the general partner lacked authority.
- (b) An act of a general partner which is not apparently for carrying on in the ordinary course the limited partnership's activities or activities of the kind carried on by the limited partnership binds the limited partnership only if the act was actually authorized by all the other partners.
- 15904.03. (a) A limited partnership is liable for loss or injury caused to a person, or for a penalty incurred, as a result of a

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wrongful act or omission, or other actionable conduct, of a general partner acting in the ordinary course of activities of the limited partnership or with authority of the limited partnership.

- (b) If, in the course of the limited partnership's activities or while acting with authority of the limited partnership, a general partner receives or causes the limited partnership to receive money or property of a person not a partner, and the money or property is misapplied by a general partner, the limited partnership is liable for the loss.
- 15904.04. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), all general partners are liable jointly and severally for all obligations of the limited partnership unless otherwise agreed by the claimant or provided by law.
- (b) A person that becomes a general partner of an existing limited partnership is not personally liable for an obligation of a limited partnership incurred before the person became a general partner.
- (c) An obligation of a limited partnership incurred while the limited partnership is a limited liability limited partnership, whether arising in contract, tort, or otherwise, is solely the obligation of the limited partnership. A general partner is not personally liable, directly or indirectly, by way of contribution or otherwise, for such an obligation solely by reason of being or acting as a general partner. This subdivision applies despite anything inconsistent in the partnership agreement that existed immediately before the consent required to become a limited liability limited partnership under paragraph (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 15904.06.
- 15904.05. (a) To the extent not inconsistent with Section 15904.04, a general partner may be joined in an action against the limited partnership or named in a separate action.
- (b) A judgment against a limited partnership is not by itself a judgment against a general partner. A judgment against a limited partnership may not be satisfied from a general partner's assets unless there is also a judgment against the general partner.
- (c) A judgment creditor of a general partner may not levy execution against the assets of the general partner to satisfy a judgment based on a claim against the limited partnership, unless the partner is personally liable for the claim under Section 15904.04 and:

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(1) a judgment based on the same claim has been obtained against the limited partnership and a writ of execution on the judgment has been returned unsatisfied in whole or in part;

- (2) the limited partnership is a debtor in bankruptcy;
- (3) the general partner has agreed that the creditor need not exhaust limited partnership assets;
- (4) a court grants permission to the judgment creditor to levy execution against the assets of a general partner based on a finding that limited partnership assets subject to execution are clearly insufficient to satisfy the judgment, that exhaustion of limited partnership assets is excessively burdensome, or that the grant of permission is an appropriate exercise of the court's equitable powers; or
- (5) liability is imposed on the general partner by law or contract independent of the existence of the limited partnership.

15904.06. (a) Each general partner has equal rights in the management and conduct of the limited partnership's activities. Except as expressly provided in this chapter, any matter relating to the activities of the limited partnership may be exclusively decided by the general partner or, if there is more than one general partner, by a majority of the general partners.

- (b) The consent of each partner is necessary to:
- (1) amend the partnership agreement;
- (2) amend the certificate of limited partnership to add or, subject to Section 15911.10, delete a statement that the limited partnership is a limited liability limited partnership; and
- (3) sell, lease, exchange, or otherwise dispose of all, or substantially all, of the limited partnership's property, with or without the good will, other than in the usual and regular course of the limited partnership's activities.
- (c) A limited partnership shall reimburse a general partner for payments made and indemnify a general partner for liabilities incurred by the general partner in the ordinary course of the activities of the partnership or for the preservation of its activities or property.
- (d) A limited partnership shall reimburse a general partner for an advance to the limited partnership beyond the amount of capital the general partner agreed to contribute.
- (e) A payment or advance made by a general partner which gives rise to an obligation of the limited partnership under

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subdivision (c) or (d) constitutes a loan to the limited partnership which accrues interest from the date of the payment or advance.

- (f) A general partner is not entitled to remuneration for services performed for the partnership.
- 15904.07. (a) A general partner, without having any particular purpose for seeking the information, may inspect and copy during regular business hours:
- (1) in the limited partnership's designated office, required information; and
- (2) at a reasonable location specified by the limited partnership, any other records maintained by the limited partnership regarding the limited partnership's activities and financial condition.
- (b) Each general partner and the limited partnership shall furnish to a general partner:
- (1) without demand, any information concerning the limited partnership's activities and activities reasonably required for the proper exercise of the general partner's rights and duties under the partnership agreement or this chapter; and
- (2) on demand, any other information concerning the limited partnership's activities, except to the extent the demand or the information demanded is unreasonable or otherwise improper under the circumstances.
- (c) Subject to subdivision (e), on 10 days' demand made in a record received by the limited partnership, a person dissociated as a general partner may have access to the information and records described in subdivision (a) at the location specified in subdivision (a) if:
- (1) the information or record pertains to the period during which the person was a general partner;
- (2) the person seeks the information or record in good faith; and
- (3) the person satisfies the requirements imposed on a limited partner by subdivision (b) of Section 15903.04.
- (d) The limited partnership shall respond to a demand made pursuant to subdivision (c) in the same manner as provided in subdivision (c) of Section 15903.04.
  - (e) If a general partner dies, Section 15907.04 applies.
- 39 (f) The limited partnership may impose reasonable restrictions 40 on the use of information under this section. In any dispute

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concerning the reasonableness of a restriction under this subdivision, the limited partnership has the burden of proving reasonableness.

- (g) A limited partnership may charge a person dissociated as a general partner that makes a demand under this section reasonable costs of copying, limited to the costs of labor and material.
- (h) A general partner or person dissociated as a general partner may exercise the rights under this section through an attorney or other agent. Any restriction imposed under subdivision (f) or by the partnership agreement applies both to the attorney or other agent and to the general partner or person dissociated as a general partner.
- (i) The rights under this section do not extend to a person as transferee, but the rights under subdivision (c) of a person dissociated as a general may be exercised by the legal representative of an individual who dissociated as a general partner under paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (g) of Section 15906.03.
- 15904.08. (a) The fiduciary duties that a general partner owes to the limited partnership and the other partners are the duties of loyalty and care under subdivisions (b) and (c).
- (b) A general partner's duty of loyalty to the limited partnership and the other partners is limited to the following:
- (1) to account to the limited partnership and hold as trustee for it any property, profit, or benefit derived by the general partner in the conduct and winding up of the limited partnership's activities or derived from a use by the general partner of limited partnership property, including the appropriation of a limited partnership opportunity;
- (2) to refrain from dealing with the limited partnership in the conduct or winding up of the limited partnership's activities as or on behalf of a party having an interest adverse to the limited partnership; and
- (3) to refrain from competing with the limited partnership in the conduct or winding up of the limited partnership's activities.
- (c) A general partner's duty of care to the limited partnership and the other partners in the conduct and winding up of the limited partnership's activities is limited to refraining from

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engaging in grossly negligent or reckless conduct, intentional misconduct, or a knowing violation of law.

- (d) A general partner shall discharge the duties to the partnership and the other partners under this chapter or under the partnership agreement and exercise any rights consistently with the obligation of good faith and fair dealing.
- (e) A general partner does not violate a duty or obligation under this chapter or under the partnership agreement merely because the general partner's conduct furthers the general partner's own interest.

15904.09. (

- a) A partnership agreement may provide for the creation of classes of general partners. The partnership agreement shall define the rights, powers, and duties of those classes including rights, powers, and duties senior to other classes of general partners.
- (b) The partnership agreement may provide to all or certain specified classes of general partners the right to vote separately or with all or any class of the general partners on any matters.

# Article 5. Contributions and Distributions

- 15905.01. A contribution of a partner may consist of tangible or intangible property or other benefit to the limited partnership, including money, services performed, promissory notes, other agreements to contribute cash or property, and contracts for services to be performed.
- 15905.02. (a) A partner's obligation to contribute money or other property or other benefit to, or to perform services for, a limited partnership is not excused by the partner's death, disability, or other inability to perform personally.
- (b) If a partner does not make a promised nonmonetary contribution, the partner is obligated at the option of the limited partnership to contribute money equal to the value of that portion, as stated in the required information, of the stated contribution which has not been made.
- (c) The obligation of a partner to make a contribution or return money or other property paid or distributed in violation of this chapter may be compromised only by consent of all partners. A creditor of a limited partnership which extends credit or

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otherwise acts in reliance on an obligation described in subdivision (a), without notice of any compromise under this subdivision, may enforce the original obligation.

- (d) A partnership agreement may provide that the interest of a partner who fails to make any contribution or other payment that the partner is required to make will be subject to specific remedies for, or specific consequences of, the failure. A provision shall be enforceable in accordance with its terms unless the partner seeking to invalidate the provision establishes that the provision was unreasonable under the circumstances existing at the time the agreement was made. The specific remedies or consequences may include loss of voting, approval, or other rights, loss of the partner's ability to actively participate in the management and operations of the partnership, liquidated damages, or a reduction of the defaulting partner's economic rights. The reduction of the defaulting partner's economic rights may include one or more of the following provisions:
- (1) Diluting, reducing or eliminating the defaulting partner's proportionate interest in the partnership.
- (2) Subordinating the defaulting partner's interest in the partnership to that of nondefaulting partners.
  - (3) Permitting a forced sale of the partnership interest.
- (4) Permitting the lending or contribution by other partners of the amount necessary to meet the defaulting partner's commitment.
- (5) Adjusting the interest rates or other rates of return, preferred, priority, or otherwise, with respect to contributions by or capital accounts of the other partners.
- (6) Fixing the value of the defaulting partner's interest in the partnership by appraisal, formula and redemption, or sale of the defaulting partner's interest in the partnership at a percentage of that value.
- (7) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to affect the rights of third-party creditors of the partnership to seek equitable remedies nor any rights existing under the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 3439) of Title 2 of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Civil Code).
- 15905.03. A distribution by a limited partnership must be shared among the partners on the basis of the value, as stated in the required records when the limited partnership decides to

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make the distribution, of the contributions the limited partnership has received from each partner.

15905.035. The profits and losses of a limited partnership shall be allocated among the partners in the manner provided in the partnership agreement. If the partnership agreement does not otherwise provide, profits and losses shall be allocated in the same manner as the partners share distributions.

15905.04. A partner does not have a right to any distribution before the dissolution and winding up of the limited partnership unless the limited partnership decides to make an interim distribution.

15905.05. A person does not have a right to receive a distribution on account of dissociation.

15905.06. A partner does not have a right to demand or receive any distribution from a limited partnership in any form other than cash. Subject to subdivision (b) of Section 15908.11, a limited partnership may distribute an asset in kind to the extent each partner receives a percentage of the asset equal to the partner's share of distributions.

15905.07. When a partner or transferee becomes entitled to receive a distribution, the partner or transferee has the status of, and is entitled to all remedies available to, a creditor of the limited partnership with respect to the distribution. However, the limited partnership's obligation to make a distribution is subject to offset for any amount owed to the limited partnership by the partner or dissociated partner on whose account the distribution is made.

15905.08. (a) A limited partnership may not make a distribution in violation of the partnership agreement. For purposes of this Section 15905.08 and Section 15905.09, the term "distribution" shall not include amounts constituting reasonable compensation for present or past services or reasonable payments made in the ordinary course of business pursuant to a bona fide retirement plan or other benefits program.

- (b) A limited partnership may not make a distribution if after the distribution:
- (1) the limited partnership would not be able to pay its debts as they become due in the ordinary course of the limited partnership's activities; or

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(2) the limited partnership's total assets would be less than the sum of its total liabilities plus the amount that would be needed, if the limited partnership were to be dissolved, wound up, and terminated at the time of the distribution, to satisfy the preferential rights upon dissolution, winding up, and termination of partners whose preferential rights are superior to those of persons receiving the distribution.

- (c) A limited partnership may base a determination that a distribution is not prohibited under subdivision (b) on financial statements prepared on the basis of accounting practices and principles that are reasonable in the circumstances or on a fair valuation or other method that is reasonable in the circumstances.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (g), the effect of a distribution under subdivision (b) is measured:
- (1) in the case of distribution by purchase, redemption, or other acquisition of a transferable interest in the limited partnership, as of the date money or other property is transferred or debt incurred by the limited partnership; and
  - (2) in all other cases, as of the date:
- (A) the distribution is authorized, if the payment occurs within 120 days after that date; or
- (B) the payment is made, if payment occurs more than 120 days after the distribution is authorized.
- (e) A limited partnership's indebtedness to a partner incurred by reason of a distribution made in accordance with this section is at parity with the limited partnership's indebtedness to its general unsecured creditors.
- (f) A limited partnership's indebtedness, including indebtedness issued in connection with or as part of a distribution, is not considered a liability for purposes of subdivision (b) if the terms of the indebtedness provide that payment of principal and interest are made only to the extent that a distribution could then be made to partners under this Section.
- (g) If indebtedness is issued as a distribution, each payment of principal or interest on the indebtedness is treated as a distribution, the effect of which is measured on the date the payment is made.
- 15905.09. (a) A general partner that consents to a distribution made in violation of Section 15905.08 is personally liable to the limited partnership for the amount of the distribution which

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exceeds the amount that could have been distributed without the violation if it is established that in consenting to the distribution the general partner failed to comply with Section 15904.08.

- (b) A partner or transferee that received a distribution knowing that the distribution to that partner or transferee was made in violation of Section 15905.08 is personally liable to the limited partnership but only to the extent that the distribution received by the partner or transferee exceeded the amount that could have been properly paid under Section 15905.08.
- (c) A general partner against which an action is commenced under subdivision (a) may:
- (1) implead in the action any other person that is liable under subdivision (a) and compel contribution from the person; and
- (2) implead in the action any person that received a distribution in violation of subdivision (b) and compel contribution from the person in the amount the person received in violation of subdivision (b).
- (d) An action under this Section is barred if it is not commenced within four years after the distribution.

### Article 6. Dissociation

- 15906.01. (a) A person does not have a right to dissociate as a limited partner before the termination of the limited partnership.
- (b) A person is dissociated from a limited partnership as a limited partner upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
- (1) the limited partnership's having notice of the person's express will to withdraw as a limited partner or on a later date specified by the person;
- (2) an event agreed to in the partnership agreement as causing the persons dissociation as a limited partner;
- (3) the person's expulsion as a limited partner pursuant to the partnership agreement;
- (4) the person's expulsion as a limited partner by the unanimous consent of the other partners if:
- (A) it is unlawful to carry on the limited partnership's activities with the person as a limited partner;

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(B) there has been a transfer of all of the person's transferable interest in the limited partnership, other than a transfer for security purposes, or a court order charging the person's interest, which has not been foreclosed;

- (C) the person is a corporation and, within 90 days after the limited partnership notifies the person that it will be expelled as a limited partner because it has filed a certificate of dissolution or the equivalent, its charter has been revoked, or its right to conduct business has been suspended by the jurisdiction of its incorporation, there is no revocation of the certificate of dissolution or no reinstatement of its charter or its right to conduct business; or
- (D) the person is a limited liability company or partnership that has been dissolved and whose business is being wound up;
- (5) on application by the limited partnership, the person's expulsion as a limited partner by judicial order because:
- (A) the person engaged in wrongful conduct that adversely and materially affected the limited partnership's activities;
- (B) the person willfully or persistently committed a material breach of the partnership agreement or of the obligation of good faith and fair dealing under subdivision (b) of Section 15903.05; or
- (C) the person engaged in conduct relating to the limited partnership's activities which makes it not reasonably practicable to carry on the activities with the person as limited partner;
- (6) in the case of a person who is an individual, the person's death;
- (7) in the case of a person that is a trust or is acting as a limited partner by virtue of being a trustee of a trust, distribution of the trust's entire transferable interest in the limited partnership, but not merely by reason of the substitution of a successor trustee;
- (8) in the case of a person that is an estate or is acting as a limited partner by virtue of being a personal representative of an estate, distribution of the estate's entire transferable interest in the limited partnership, but not merely by reason of the substitution of a successor personal representative;
- (9) termination of a limited partner that is not an individual, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, trust, or estate:

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(10) the limited partnership's participation in a conversion or merger under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), if the limited partnership:

(A) is not the converted or surviving entity; or

(B) is the converted or surviving entity but, as a result of the conversion or merger, the person ceases to be a limited partner.

15906.02. (a) Upon a person's dissociation as a limited partner:

- (1) subject to Section 15907.04, the person does not have further rights as a limited partner;
- (2) the person's obligation of good faith and fair dealing as a limited partner under subdivision (b) of Section 15903.05 continues only as to matters arising and events occurring before the dissociation; and
- (3) subject to Section 15907.04 and Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), any transferable interest owned by the person in the person's capacity as a limited partner immediately before dissociation is owned by the person as a mere transferee.
- (b) A person's dissociation as a limited partner does not of itself discharge the person from any obligation to the limited partnership or the other partners which the person incurred while a limited partner.
- 15906.03. A person is dissociated from a limited partnership as a general partner upon the occurrence of any of the following events:
- (a) the limited partnership's having notice of the person's express will to withdraw as a general partner or on a later date specified by the person;
- (b) an event agreed to in the partnership agreement as causing the persons dissociation as a general partner;
- (c) the person's expulsion as a general partner pursuant to the partnership agreement;
- (d) the person's expulsion as a general partner by the unanimous consent of the other partners if:
- (1) it is unlawful to carry on the limited partnership's activities with the person as a general partner;
- (2) there has been a transfer of all or substantially all of the person's transferable interest in the limited partnership, other than a transfer for security purposes, or a court order charging the person's interest, which has not been foreclosed;

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(3) the person is a corporation and, within 90 days after the limited partnership notifies the person that it will be expelled as a general partner because it has filed a certificate of dissolution or the equivalent, its charter has been revoked, or its right to conduct business has been suspended by the jurisdiction of its incorporation, there is no revocation of the certificate of dissolution or no reinstatement of its charter or its right to conduct business; or

- (4) the person is a limited liability company or partnership that has been dissolved and whose business is being wound up;
- (e) on application by the limited partnership, the person's expulsion as a general partner by judicial determination because:
- (1) the person engaged in wrongful conduct that adversely and materially affected the limited partnership activities;
- (2) the person willfully or persistently committed a material breach of the partnership agreement or of a duty owed to the partnership or the other partners under Section 15904.08; or
- (3) the person engaged in conduct relating to the limited partnership's activities which makes it not reasonably practicable to carry on the activities of the limited partnership with the person as a general partner;
  - (f) the person's:
  - (1) becoming a debtor in bankruptcy;
  - (2) execution of an assignment for the benefit of creditors;
- (3) seeking, consenting to, or acquiescing in the appointment of a trustee, receiver, or liquidator of the person or of all or substantially all of the person's property; or
- (4) failure, within 90 days after the appointment, to have vacated or stayed the appointment of a trustee, receiver, or liquidator of the general partner or of all or substantially all of the person's property obtained without the person's consent or acquiescence, or failing within 90 days after the expiration of a stay to have the appointment vacated;
  - (g) in the case of a person who is an individual:
  - (1) the person's death;
- (2) the appointment of a guardian or general conservator for the person; or
- (3) a judicial determination that the person has otherwise become incapable of performing the person's duties as a general partner under the partnership agreement;

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(h) in the case of a person that is a trust or is acting as a general partner by virtue of being a trustee of a trust, distribution of the trust's entire transferable interest in the limited partnership, but not merely by reason of the substitution of a successor trustee;

- (i) in the case of a person that is an estate or is acting as a general partner by virtue of being a personal representative of an estate, distribution of the estate's entire transferable interest in the limited partnership, but not merely by reason of the substitution of a successor personal representative;
- (j) termination of a general partner that is not an individual, partnership, limited liability company, corporation, trust, or estate; or
- (k) the limited partnership's participation in a conversion or merger under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), if the limited partnership:
  - (1) is not the converted or surviving entity; or
- (2) is the converted or surviving entity but, as a result of the conversion or merger, the person ceases to be a general partner.
- 15906.04. (a) A person has the power to dissociate as a general partner at any time, rightfully or wrongfully, by express will pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 15906.03.
- (b) A person's dissociation as a general partner is wrongful only if:
- (1) it is in breach of an express provision of the partnership agreement; or
- (2) it occurs before the termination of the limited partnership, and:
  - (A) the person withdraws as a general partner by express will;
- (B) the person is expelled as a general partner by judicial determination under subdivision (e) of Section 15906.03;
- (C) the person is dissociated as a general partner by becoming a debtor in bankruptcy; or
- (D) in the case of a person that is not an individual, trust other than a business trust, or estate, the person is expelled or otherwise dissociated as a general partner because it willfully dissolved or terminated.
- (c) A person that wrongfully dissociates as a general partner is liable to the limited partnership and, subject to Section 15910.01, to the other partners for damages caused by the dissociation. The

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liability is in addition to any other obligation of the general partner to the limited partnership or to the other partners.

15906.05. (a) Upon a person's dissociation as a general partner:

- (1) the person's right to participate as a general partner in the management and conduct of the partnership's activities terminates;
- (2) the person's duty of loyalty as a general partner under paragraph (3) of subdivision (b) of Section 15904.08 terminates;
- (3) the person's duty of loyalty as a general partner under paragraphs (1) and (2) of subdivision (b) of Section 15904.08 and duty of care under subdivision (c) of Section 15904.08 continue only with regard to matters arising and events occurring before the person's dissociation as a general partner;
- (4) the person may sign and deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a statement of dissociation pertaining to the person and, at the request of the limited partnership, shall sign an amendment to the certificate of limited partnership which states that the person has dissociated; and
- (5) subject to Section 15907.04 and Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), any transferable interest owned by the person immediately before dissociation in the person's capacity as a general partner is owned by the person as a mere transferee.
- (b) A person's dissociation as a general partner does not of itself discharge the person from any obligation to the limited partnership or the other partners which the person incurred while a general partner.
- 15906.06. (a) After a person is dissociated as a general partner and before the limited partnership is dissolved, converted under Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01), or merged out of existence under that article, the limited partnership is bound by an act of the person only if:
- (1) the act would have bound the limited partnership under Section 15904.02 before the dissociation; and
  - (2) at the time the other party enters into the transaction:
  - (A) less than two years has passed since the dissociation; and
- (B) the other party does not have notice of the dissociation and reasonably believes that the person is a general partner.

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(b) If a limited partnership is bound under subdivision (a), the person dissociated as a general partner which caused the limited partnership to be bound is liable:

- (1) to the limited partnership for any damage caused to the limited partnership arising from the obligation incurred under subdivision (a); and
- (2) if a general partner or another person dissociated as a general partner is liable for the obligation, to the general partner or other person for any damage caused to the general partner or other person arising from the liability.
- 15906.07. (a) A person's dissociation as a general partner does not of itself discharge the person's liability as a general partner for an obligation of the limited partnership incurred before dissociation. Except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (b) and (c), the person is not liable for a limited partnership's obligation incurred after dissociation.
- (b) A person whose dissociation as a general partner resulted in a dissolution and winding up of the limited partnership's activities is liable to the same extent as a general partner under Section 15904.04 on an obligation incurred by the limited partnership under Section 15908.04.
- (c) A person that has dissociated as a general partner but whose dissociation did not result in a dissolution and winding up of the limited partnership's activities is liable on a transaction entered into by the limited partnership after the dissociation only if:
  - (1) a general partner would be liable on the transaction; and
  - (2) at the time the other party enters into the transaction:
  - (A) less than two years has passed since the dissociation; and
- (B) the other party does not have notice of the dissociation and reasonably believes that the person is a general partner.
- (d) By agreement with a creditor of a limited partnership and the limited partnership, a person dissociated as a general partner may be released from liability for an obligation of the limited partnership.
- (e) A person dissociated as a general partner is released from liability for an obligation of the limited partnership if the limited partnership's creditor, with notice of the person's dissociation as a general partner but without the person's consent, agrees to a

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material alteration in the nature or time of payment of the obligation.

Article 7. Transferable Interests and Rights of Transferees and Creditors

15907.01. The only interest of a partner which is transferable is the partner's transferable interest. A transferable interest is personal property.

15907.02. (a) A transfer, in whole or in part, of a partner's transferable interest:

- (1) is permissible;
- (2) does not by itself cause the partner's dissociation or a dissolution and winding up of the limited partnership's activities; and
- (3) does not, as against the other partners or the limited partnership, entitle the transferee to participate in the management or conduct of the limited partnership's activities, to require access to information concerning the limited partnership's transactions except as otherwise provided in subdivision (c), or to inspect or copy the required information or the limited partnership's other records or to exercise any other rights or powers of a partner.
- (b) A transferee has a right to receive, in accordance with the transfer, distributions to which the transferor would otherwise be entitled.
- (c) A transferee is entitled to an account of the limited partnership's transactions only upon the dissolution and winding up of the limited partnership.
- (d) Upon transfer, the transferor retains the rights of a partner other than the interest in distributions transferred and retains all duties and obligations of a partner.
- (e) A limited partnership need not give effect to a transferee's rights under this section until the limited partnership has notice of the transfer.
- (f) A transfer of a partner's transferable interest in the limited partnership in violation of a restriction on transfer contained in the partnership agreement is ineffective as to a person having notice of the restriction at the time of transfer.

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(g) A transferee that becomes a partner with respect to a transferable interest is liable for the transferor's obligations under Sections 15905.02 and 15905.09. However, the transferee is not obligated for liabilities unknown to the transferee at the time the transferee became a partner.

15907.03. (a) On application to a court of competent jurisdiction by any judgment creditor of a partner or transferee, the court may charge the transferable interest of the judgment debtor with payment of the unsatisfied amount of the judgment with interest. To the extent so charged, the judgment creditor has only the rights of a transferee. The court may appoint a receiver of the share of the distributions due or to become due to the judgment debtor in respect of the partnership and make all other orders, directions, accounts, and inquiries the judgment debtor might have made or which the circumstances of the case may require to give effect to the charging order.

- (b) A charging order constitutes a lien on the judgment debtor's transferable interest. The court may order a foreclosure upon the interest subject to the charging order at any time. The purchaser at the foreclosure sale has the rights of a transferee.
- (c) At any time before foreclosure, an interest charged may be redeemed:
  - (1) by the judgment debtor;

- (2) with property other than limited partnership property, by one or more of the other partners; or
- (3) with limited partnership property, by the limited partnership with the consent of all partners whose interests are not so charged.
- (d) This chapter does not deprive any partner or transferee of the benefit of any exemption laws applicable to the partner's or transferee's transferable interest.
- (e) This section provides the exclusive remedy by which a judgment creditor of a partner or transferee may satisfy a judgment out of the judgment debtor's transferable interest.
- (f) No creditor of a partner shall have any right to obtain possession or otherwise exercise legal or equitable remedies with respect to the property of the limited partnership.
- 15907.04. If a partner dies, the deceased partner's personal representative or other legal representative may exercise the rights of a transferee as provided in Section 15907.02 and, for the

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purposes of settling the estate, may exercise the rights of a current limited partner under Section 15903.04.

#### Article 8. Dissolution

- 15908.01. Except as otherwise provided in Section 15908.02, a limited partnership is dissolved, and its activities must be wound up, only upon the occurrence of any of the following:
- (a) the happening of an event specified in the partnership agreement;
- (b) the consent of all general partners and of limited partners owning a majority of the rights to receive distributions as limited partners at the time the consent is to be effective;
  - (c) after the dissociation of a person as a general partner:
- (1) if the limited partnership has at least one remaining general partner, and a consent to dissolve the limited partnership is given within 90 days after the dissociation by partners owning a majority of the rights to receive distributions as partners at the time the consent is to be effective; or
- (2) if the limited partnership does not have a remaining general partner, the passage of 90 days after the dissociation, unless before the end of the period:
- (A) consent to continue the activities of the limited partnership and admit at least one general partner is given by limited partners owning a majority of the rights to receive distributions as limited partners at the time the consent is to be effective; and
- (B) at least one person is admitted as a general partner in accordance with the consent; or
- (d) the passage of 90 days after the dissociation of the limited partnership's last limited partner, unless before the end of the period the limited partnership admits at least one limited partner.
- 15908.02. (a) On application by a partner, a court of competent jurisdiction may order dissolution of a limited partnership if it is not reasonably practicable to carry on the activities of the limited partnership in conformity with the partnership agreement.
- (b) In any suit for judicial dissolution, the other partners may avoid the dissolution of the limited partnership by purchasing for cash the partnership interests owned by the partners so initiating the proceeding (the "moving parties") at their fair market value.

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In fixing the value, the amount of any damages resulting if the initiation of the dissolution is a breach by any moving party or parties of an agreement with the purchasing party or parties, including, without limitation, the partnership agreement, may be deducted from the amount payable to the moving party or parties.

- (c) If the purchasing parties (1) elect to purchase the partnership interests owned by the moving parties, (2) are unable to agree with the moving parties upon the fair market value of the partnership interests, and (3) give bond with sufficient security to pay the estimated reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, of the moving parties if the expenses are recoverable under paragraph (3), the court, upon application of the purchasing parties, either in the pending action or in a proceeding initiated in the superior court of the proper county by the purchasing parties, shall stay the winding up and dissolution proceeding and shall proceed to ascertain and fix the fair market value of the partnership interests owned by the moving parties.
- (d) The court shall appoint three disinterested appraisers to appraise the fair market value of the partnership interests owned by the moving parties, and shall make an order referring the matter to the appraisers so appointed for the purpose of ascertaining that value. The order shall prescribe the time and manner of producing evidence, if evidence is required. The award of the appraisers or a majority of them, when confirmed by the court, shall be final and conclusive upon all parties. The court shall enter a decree that shall provide in the alternative for winding up and dissolution of the limited partnership unless payment is made for the partnership interests within the time specified by the decree. If the purchasing parties do not make payment for the partnership interests within the time specified, judgment shall be entered against them and the surety or sureties on the bond for the amount of the expenses, including attorneys' fees, of the moving parties. Any member aggrieved by the action of the court may appeal therefrom.
- (e) If the purchasing parties desire to prevent the winding up and dissolution of the limited partnership, they shall pay to the moving parties the value of their partnership interests ascertained and decreed within the time specified pursuant to this section, or, in the case of an appeal, as fixed on appeal. On receiving that

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payment or the tender thereof, the moving parties shall transfer their partnership interests to the purchasing parties.

- (f) For the purposes of this section, the valuation date shall be the date upon which the action for judicial dissolution was commenced. However, the court may, upon the hearing of a motion by any party, and for good cause shown, designate some other date as the valuation date.
- 15908.03. (a) A limited partnership continues after dissolution only for the purpose of winding up its activities.
  - (b) In winding up its activities, the limited partnership:
- (1) may amend its certificate of limited partnership to state that the limited partnership is dissolved, preserve the limited partnership business or property as a going concern for a reasonable time, prosecute and defend actions and proceedings, whether civil, criminal, or administrative, transfer the limited partnership's property, settle disputes by mediation or arbitration, file a statement of termination as provided in Section 15902.03, and perform other necessary acts; and
- (2) shall discharge the limited partnership's liabilities, settle and close the limited partnership's activities, and marshal and distribute the assets of the partnership.
- (c) If a dissolved limited partnership does not have a general partner, a person to wind up the dissolved limited partnership's activities may be appointed by the consent of limited partners owning a majority of the rights to receive distributions as limited partners at the time the consent is to be effective. A person appointed under this subdivision:
- (1) has the powers of a general partner under Section 15908.04; and
- (2) shall promptly amend the certificate of limited partnership to state:
- (A) that the limited partnership does not have a general partner;
- (B) the name of the person that has been appointed to wind up the limited partnership; and
  - (C) the street and mailing address of the person.
- (d) On the application of any partner, the appropriate court may order judicial supervision of the winding up, including the appointment of a person to wind up the dissolved limited partnership's activities, if:

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(1) a limited partnership does not have a general partner and within a reasonable time following the dissolution no person has been appointed pursuant to subdivision (c); or

- (2) the applicant establishes other good cause.
- (e) Unless otherwise provided in the partnership agreement, the limited partners winding up the affairs of the partnership pursuant to this section shall be entitled to reasonable compensation.
- 15908.04. (a) A limited partnership is bound by a general partner's act after dissolution which:
- (1) is appropriate for winding up the limited partnership's activities; or
- (2) would have bound the limited partnership under Section 15904.02 before dissolution, if, at the time the other party enters into the transaction, the other party does not have notice of the dissolution.
- (b) A person dissociated as a general partner binds a limited partnership through an act occurring after dissolution if:
  - (1) at the time the other party enters into the transaction:
  - (A) less than two years has passed since the dissociation; and
- (B) the other party does not have notice of the dissociation and reasonably believes that the person is a general partner; and
  - (2) the act:

- (A) is appropriate for winding up the limited partnership's activities; or
- (B) would have bound the limited partnership under Section 15904.02 before dissolution and at the time the other party enters into the transaction the other party does not have notice of the dissolution.
- 15908.05. (a) If a general partner having knowledge of the dissolution causes a limited partnership to incur an obligation under subdivision (a) of Section 15908.04 by an act that is not appropriate for winding up the partnership's activities, the general partner is liable:
- (1) to the limited partnership for any damage caused to the limited partnership arising from the obligation; and
- (2) if another general partner or a person dissociated as a general partner is liable for the obligation, to that other general partner or person for any damage caused to that other general partner or person arising from the liability.

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(b) If a person dissociated as a general partner causes a limited partnership to incur an obligation under subdivision (b) of Section 15908.04, the person is liable:

- (1) to the limited partnership for any damage caused to the limited partnership arising from the obligation; and
- (2) if a general partner or another person dissociated as a general partner is liable for the obligation, to the general partner or other person for any damage caused to the general partner or other person arising from the liability.
- 15908.06. (a) A dissolved limited partnership may dispose of the known claims against it by following the procedure described in subdivision (b).
- (b) A dissolved limited partnership may notify its known claimants of the dissolution in a record. The notice must:
  - (1) specify the information required to be included in a claim;
  - (2) provide a mailing address to which the claim is to be sent;
- (3) state the deadline for receipt of the claim, which may not be less than 120 days after the date the notice is received by the claimant;
- (4) state that the claim will be barred if not received by the deadline; and
- (5) unless the limited partnership has been throughout its existence a limited liability limited partnership, state that the barring of a claim against the limited partnership will also bar any corresponding claim against any general partner or person dissociated as a general partner which is based on Section 15904.04.
- (c) A claim against a dissolved limited partnership is barred if the requirements of subdivision (b) are met and:
  - (1) the claim is not received by the specified deadline; or
- (2) in the case of a claim that is timely received but rejected in writing by the dissolved limited partnership, the claimant does not commence an action to enforce the claim against the limited partnership within 90 days after the receipt of a written notice of the rejection.
- (d) This section does not apply to a claim based on an event occurring after the effective date of dissolution or a liability that is contingent on that date.
- 15908.07. (a) A dissolved limited partnership may publish notice of its dissolution and request persons having claims

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against the limited partnership to present them in accordance with the notice.

(b) The notice must:

- (1) be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the dissolved limited partnership's principal office is located or, if it has none in this State, in the county in which the limited partnership's designated office is or was last located;
- (2) describe the information required to be contained in a claim and provide a mailing address to which the claim is to be sent;
- (3) state that a claim against the limited partnership is barred unless an action to enforce the claim is commenced within four years after publication of the notice; and
- (4) unless the limited partnership has been throughout its existence a limited liability limited partnership, state that the barring of a claim against the limited partnership will also bar any corresponding claim against any general partner or person dissociated as a general partner which is based on Section 15904.04.
- (c) If a dissolved limited partnership publishes a notice in accordance with subdivision (b), the claim of each of the following claimants is barred unless the claimant commences an action to enforce the claim against the dissolved limited partnership within four years after the publication date of the notice:
- (1) a claimant that did not receive notice in a record under Section 15908.06;
- (2) a claimant whose claim was timely sent to the dissolved limited partnership but not acted on; and
- (3) a claimant whose claim is contingent or based on an event occurring after the effective date of dissolution.
  - (d) A claim not barred under this section may be enforced:
  - (1) against the dissolved limited partnership, to the extent of its undistributed assets;
  - (2) if the assets have been distributed in liquidation, against a partner or transferee to the extent of that person's proportionate share of the claim or the limited partnership's assets distributed to the partner or transferee in liquidation, whichever is less, but a person's total liability for all claims under this paragraph does

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not exceed the total amount of assets distributed to the person as part of the winding up of the dissolved limited partnership; or

- (3) against any person liable on the claim under Section 15904.04.
- 15908.08. If a claim against a dissolved limited partnership is barred under Section 15908.06 or 15908.07, any corresponding claim under Section 15904.04 is also barred.
- 15908.09. (a) In winding up a limited partnership's activities, the assets of the limited partnership, including the contributions required by this section, must be applied to satisfy the limited partnership's obligations to creditors, including, to the extent permitted by law, partners that are creditors.
- (b) Any surplus remaining after the limited partnership complies with subdivision (a) must be paid in cash as a distribution.
- (c) If a limited partnership's assets are insufficient to satisfy all of its obligations under subdivision (a), with respect to each unsatisfied obligation incurred when the limited partnership was not a limited partnership, the following rules apply:
- (1) Each person that was a general partner when the obligation was incurred and that has not been released from the obligation under Section 15906.07 shall contribute to the limited partnership for the purpose of enabling the limited partnership to satisfy the obligation. The contribution due from each of those persons is in proportion to the right to receive distributions in the capacity of general partner in effect for each of those persons when the obligation was incurred.
- (2) If a person does not contribute the full amount required under paragraph (1) with respect to an unsatisfied obligation of the limited partnership, the other persons required to contribute by paragraph (1) on account of the obligation shall contribute the additional amount necessary to discharge the obligation. The additional contribution due from each of those other persons is in proportion to the right to receive distributions in the capacity of general partner in effect for each of those other persons when the obligation was incurred.
- (3) If a person does not make the additional contribution required by paragraph (2), further additional contributions are determined and due in the same manner as provided in that paragraph.

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(d) A person that makes an additional contribution under paragraph (2) or (3) of subdivision (c) may recover from any person whose failure to contribute under paragraph (1) or (2) of subdivision (c) necessitated the additional contribution. A person may not recover under this subdivision more than the amount additionally contributed. A person's liability under this subdivision may not exceed the amount the person failed to contribute.

- (e) The estate of a deceased individual is liable for the person's obligations under this section.
- (f) An assignee for the benefit of creditors of a limited partnership or a partner, or a person appointed by a court to represent creditors of a limited partnership or a partner, may enforce a person's obligation to contribute under subdivision (c).

# Article 9. Foreign Limited Partnership

- 15909.01. (a) The laws of the State or other jurisdiction under which a foreign limited partnership is organized govern relations among the partners of the foreign limited partnership and between the partners and the foreign limited partnership and the liability of partners as partners for an obligation of the foreign limited partnership.
- (b) A foreign limited partnership may not be denied a certificate of registration by reason of any difference between the laws of the jurisdiction under which the foreign limited partnership is organized and the laws of this state.
- (c) A certificate of registration does not authorize a foreign limited partnership to engage in any business or exercise any power that a limited partnership may not engage in or exercise in this state.
- 15909.02. (a) A foreign limited partnership may apply for a certificate of registration to transact business in this state by delivering an application to the Secretary of State for filing. The application must state:
- (1) the name of the foreign limited partnership and, if the name does not comply with Section 15901.08, an alternate name adopted pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 15909.05.
- (2) the name of the state or other jurisdiction under whose law the foreign limited partnership is organized;

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(3) the street and mailing address of the foreign limited partnership's principal office and, if the laws of the jurisdiction under which the foreign limited partnership is organized require the foreign limited partnership to maintain an office in that jurisdiction, the street and mailing address of the required office;

- (4) the name and street and mailing address of the foreign limited partnership's initial agent for service of process in this state:
- (5) the name and street and mailing address of each of the foreign limited partnership's general partners; and
- (6) whether the foreign limited partnership is a foreign limited liability limited partnership.
- (b) A foreign limited partnership shall deliver with the completed application a certificate of existence or a record of similar import signed by the Secretary of State or other official having custody of the foreign limited partnership's publicly filed records in the state or other jurisdiction under whose law the foreign limited partnership is organized.
- 15909.03. (a) Activities of a foreign limited partnership which do not constitute transacting business in this state within the meaning of this article include:
- (1) maintaining, defending, and settling an action or proceeding;
- (2) holding meetings of its partners or carrying on any other activity concerning its internal affairs;
  - (3) maintaining accounts in financial institutions;
- (4) maintaining offices or agencies for the transfer, exchange, and registration of the foreign limited partnership's own securities or maintaining trustees or depositories with respect to those securities:
  - (5) selling through independent contractors;
- (6) soliciting or obtaining orders, whether by mail or electronic means or through employees or agents or otherwise, if the orders require acceptance outside this State before they become contracts;
- (7) creating or acquiring indebtedness, mortgages, or security interests in real or personal property;
- (8) securing or collecting debts or enforcing mortgages or other security interests in property securing the debts, and holding, protecting, and maintaining property so acquired;

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(9) conducting an isolated transaction that is completed within 180 days and is not one in the course of similar transactions of a like manner; and

(10) transacting business in interstate commerce.

- (b) For purposes of this article, the ownership in this state of income-producing real property or tangible personal property, other than property excluded under subdivision (a), constitutes transacting business in this state.
- (c) This section does not apply in determining the contacts or activities that may subject a foreign limited partnership to service of process, taxation, or regulation under any other law of this state.

15904.04. Unless the Secretary of State determines that an application for a certificate of registration does not comply with the filing requirements of this chapter, the Secretary of State, upon payment of all filing fees, shall file the application, prepare, sign and file a certificate of registration to transact business in this state, and send a copy of the filed certificate, together with a receipt for the fees, to the foreign limited partnership or its representative.

15904.05. (a) A foreign limited partnership whose name does not comply with Section 15901.08 may not obtain a certificate of registration until it adopts, for the purpose of transacting business in this state, an alternate name that complies with Section 15901.08.

(b) If a foreign limited partnership authorized to transact business in this State changes its name to one that does not comply with Section 15901.08, it may not thereafter transact business in this state until it complies with subdivision (a) and obtains an amended certificate of registration.

15909.06. (a) In order to cancel its certificate of registration to transact business in this state, a foreign limited partnership must deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a notice of cancellation. The certificate is canceled when the notice becomes effective under Section 15902.06.

- (b) A foreign limited partnership transacting business in this state may not maintain an action or proceeding in this state unless it has a certificate of registration to transact business in this state.
- (c) The failure of a foreign limited partnership to have a certificate of registration to transact business in this state does

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not impair the validity of a contract or act of the foreign limited partnership or prevent the foreign limited partnership from defending an action or proceeding in this state.

- (d) A partner of a foreign limited partnership is not liable for the obligations of the foreign limited partnership solely by reason of the foreign limited partnership's having transacted business in this state without a certificate of registration.
- (e) If a foreign limited partnership transacts business in this state without a certificate of registration or cancels its certificate of registration, it appoints the Secretary of State as its agent for service of process for rights of action arising out of the transaction of business in this state.

15909.07. The Attorney General may maintain an action to restrain a foreign limited partnership from transacting business in this state in violation of this article.

# Article 10. Actions by Partners

- 15910.01. (a) Subject to subdivision (b), a partner may maintain a direct action against the partnership or another partner for legal or equitable relief, with or without an accounting as to partnership's activities, to enforce the rights and otherwise protect the interests of the partner, including rights and interests under the partnership agreement or this chapter or arising independently of the partnership relationship.
- (b) A partner bringing a direct action under this section is required to plead and prove an actual or threatened injury that is not solely the result of an injury suffered or threatened to be suffered by the limited partnership.
- (c) The accrual of, and any time limitation on, a right of action for a remedy under this section is governed by other law. A right to an accounting upon a dissolution and winding up does not revive a claim barred by law.
- 15910.02. A partner may bring a derivative action to enforce a right of a limited partnership if:
- (1) the partner first makes a demand on the general partners, requesting that they cause the limited partnership to bring an action to enforce the right, and the general partners do not bring the action within a reasonable time; or
  - (2) a demand would be futile.

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1510.03. (a) A derivative action may be maintained only by a person that is a partner at the time the action is commenced and:

- (1) that was a partner when the conduct giving rise to action occurred; or
- (2) whose status as a partner devolved upon the person by operation of law or pursuant to the terms of the partnership agreement from a person that was a partner at the time of that conduct.
- (b) Notwithstanding the foregoing, any partner who does not meet the foregoing requirements may nevertheless be allowed in the discretion of the court to maintain the action on a preliminary showing to and determination by the court, by motion and after a hearing, at which the court shall consider such evidence, by affidavit or testimony, as it deems material that (1) there is a strong prima facie case in favor of the claim asserted on behalf of the partnership, (2) no other similar action has been or is likely to be instituted, (3) the plaintiff acquired the shares before there was disclosure to the public of to the plaintiff of the wrongdoing of which plaintiff complains, (4) unless the action can be maintained the defendant may retain a gain derived from the defendant's willful breach of a fiduciary duty, and (5) the requested relief will not result in unjust enrichment of the partnership or any partner.

15910.04. In a derivative action, the complaint must state with particularity:

- (1) the date and content of plaintiff's demand and the general partners' response to the demand; or
  - (2) why demand is excused as futile.
- 15910.05. (a) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (b):
- (1) any proceeds or other benefits of a derivative action, whether by judgment, compromise, or settlement, belong to the limited partnership and not to the derivative plaintiff;
- (2) if the derivative plaintiff receives any of those proceeds, the derivative plaintiff shall immediately remit them to the limited partnership.
- (b) If a derivative action is successful in whole or in part, the court may award the plaintiff reasonable expenses, including reasonable attorney's fees, from the recovery of the limited partnership.

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15910.06. (a) In any derivative action, at any time within 30 days after service of summons upon the partnership or the general partner, the partnership or general partner may move the court for an order, upon notice and hearing, requiring the plaintiff to furnish a bond as hereinafter provided. The motion shall be based upon one or both of the following grounds:

- (1) That there is no reasonably possibility that the prosecution of the cause of action alleged in the complaint against the moving party will benefit the partnership or its partners.
- (2) That the moving party, if other than the partnership, did not participate in the transaction complained of in any capacity. The court on application of the partnership or the general partner may, for good cause shown, extend the 30-day period for an addition period or periods not exceeding 60-days.
- (b) At the hearing upon any motion pursuant to the subdivision (a) the court shall consider such evidence, written or oral, by witnesses or affidavit, as may be material (1) to the ground or grounds upon which the motion is based, or (2) to a determination of the probable reasonable expenses, including attorneys' fees, of the partnership and the general partner which will be incurred in defense of the action. If the court determines, after hearing the evidence adduced by the parties, that the moving party has established a probability in support of any of the grounds upon which the motion is based, the court shall fix the amount of the bond, not to exceed fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), to be furnished by the plaintiff for reasonable expenses, including attorneys fees, which may be incurred by the moving party and the partnership in connection with the action, including expenses for which the partnership may become liable pursuant to subdivision (c) of Section 15904.06. A ruling by the court on the motion shall not be a determination of any issue in the action or of the merits thereof. If the court, upon motion, makes a determination that a bond shall be furnished by the plaintiff as to any one or more defendants, the action shall be dismissed as to the defendant or defendants, unless the bond required by the court has been furnished within such reasonable time as may be fixed by the court.
- (c) If the plaintiff shall, either before or after a motion is made pursuant to subdivision (a), or any order or determination pursuant to the motion, furnish a bond in the aggregate amount of

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fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) to secure the reasonable expenses of the parties entitled to make the motion, the plaintiff has complied with the requirements of this Section and with any order for a bond theretofore made, any such motion then pending shall be dismissed and no further additional bond shall be required.

(d) If a motion is filed pursuant to subdivision (a), no pleadings need to be filed by the partnership or any other defendant and the prosecution of the action shall be stayed until 10 days after the motion has been disposed of.

## Article 11. Conversion and Merger

15911.01. In this Article:

- (1) "Constituent limited partnership" means a constituent organization that is a limited partnership.
- (2) "Constituent organization" means an organization that is party to a merger.
- (3) "Converted organization" means the organization into which a converting organization converts pursuant to Sections 15911.02 to 15911.05, inclusive.
- (4) "Converting limited partnership" means a converting organization that is a limited partnership.
- (5) "Converting organization" means an organization that converts into another organization pursuant to Section 15911.02.
- (6) "General partner" means a general partner of a limited partnership.
- (7) "Governing statute" of an organization means the statute that governs the organization's internal affairs.
- (8) "Organization" means a general partnership, including a limited liability partnership; limited partnership, including a limited liability limited partnership; limited liability company; business trust; corporation; or any other person having a governing statute. The term includes domestic and foreign organizations whether or not organized for profit.
  - (9) "Organizational documents" means:
- (A) for a domestic or foreign general partnership, its partnership agreement;
- (B) for a limited partnership or foreign limited partnership, its certificate of limited partnership and partnership agreement;

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(C) for a domestic or foreign limited liability company, its articles of organization and operating agreement, or comparable records as provided in its governing statute;

- (D) for a business trust, its agreement of trust and declaration of trust;
- (E) for a domestic or foreign corporation for profit, its articles of incorporation, bylaws, and other agreements among its shareholders which are authorized by its governing statute, or comparable records as provided in its governing statute; and
- (F) for any other organization, the basic records that create the organization and determine its internal governance and the relations among the persons that own it, have an interest in it, or are members of it.
- (10) "Personal liability" means personal liability for a debt, liability or other obligation of an organization which is imposed on a person that co-owns, has an interest in, or is a member of the organization:
- (A) by the organization's governing statute solely by reason of the person co-owning, having an interest in, or being a member of the organization; or
- (B) by the organization's organizational documents under a provision of the organization's governing statute authorizing those documents to make one or more specified persons liable for all or specified debts, liabilities, and other obligations of the organization solely by reason of the person or persons co-owning, having an interest in, or being a member of the organization.
- (11) "Surviving organization" means an organization into which one or more other organizations are merged. A surviving organization may preexist the merger or be created by the merger.
- 15911.02. (a) An organization other than a limited partnership may convert to a limited partnership, and a limited partnership may convert to another organization pursuant to this section and Sections 15911.03 to 15911.05, inclusive, and a plan of conversion, if:
- (1) the other organization's governing statute authorizes the conversion;
- 39 (2) the conversion is not prohibited by the law of the 40 jurisdiction that enacted the governing statute; and

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(3) the other organization complies with its governing statute in effecting the conversion.

- (b) A plan of conversion must be in a record and must include:
- (1) the name and form of the organization before conversion;
- (2) the name and form of the organization after conversion; and
- (3) the terms and conditions of the conversion, including the manner and basis for converting interests in the converting organization into any combination of money, interests in the converted organization, and other consideration; and
- (4) the organizational documents of the converted organization.
- 15911.03. (a) Subject to Section 15911.10, a plan of conversion must be consented to by all the general partners and a majority in interest of each class of limited partners of a converting limited partnership.
- (b) Subject to Section 15911.10 and any dissenter's rights provided in Article 11.5 (commencing with Section 15911.14), after a conversion is approved, and at any time before a filing is made under Section 15911.04, a converting limited partnership may amend the plan or abandon the planned conversion:
  - (1) as provided in the plan; and

- (2) except as prohibited by the plan, by the same consent as was required to approve the plan.
  - 15911.04. (a) After a plan of conversion is approved:
- (1) a converting limited partnership shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing articles of conversion, which must include:
- (A) a statement that the limited partnership has been converted into another organization;
- (B) the name and form of the organization and the jurisdiction of its governing statute;
- (C) the date the conversion is effective under the governing statute of the converted organization;
- (D) a statement that the conversion was approved as required by this chapter;
- (E) a statement that the conversion was approved as required by the governing statute of the converted organization; and
- 39 (F) if the converted organization is a foreign organization not 40 authorized to transact business in this state, the street and mailing

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address of an office which the Secretary of State may use for the purposes of subdivision (c) of Section 15911.05; and

- (2) if the converting organization is not a converting limited partnership, the converting organization shall deliver to the Secretary of State for filing a certificate of limited partnership, which must include, in addition to the information required by Section 15902.01:
- (A) a statement that the limited partnership was converted from another organization;
- (B) the name and form of the organization and the jurisdiction of its governing statute; and
- (C) a statement that the conversion was approved in a manner that complied with the organization's governing statute.
  - (b) A conversion becomes effective:
- (1) if the converted organization is a limited partnership, when the certificate of limited partnership takes effect; and
- (2) if the converted organization is not a limited partnership, as provided by the governing statute of the converted organization.
- 15911.05. (a) An organization that has been converted pursuant to this article is for all purposes the same entity that existed before the conversion.
  - (b) When a conversion takes effect:
- (1) all property owned by the converting organization remains vested in the converted organization;
- (2) all debts, liabilities, and other obligations of the converting organization continue as obligations of the converted organization;
- (3) an action or proceeding pending by or against the converting organization may be continued as if the conversion had not occurred;
- (4) except as prohibited by other law, all of the rights, privileges, immunities, powers, and purposes of the converting organization remain vested in the converted organization;
- (5) except as otherwise provided in the plan of conversion, the terms and conditions of the plan of conversion take effect; and
- 37 (6) except as otherwise agreed, the conversion does not 38 dissolve a converting limited partnership for the purposes of 39 Article 8 (commencing with Section 15908.01).

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(c) A converted organization that is a foreign organization consents to the jurisdiction of the courts of this state to enforce any obligation owed by the converting limited partnership, if before the conversion the converting limited partnership was subject to suit in this state on the obligation. A converted organization that is a foreign organization and not authorized to transact business in this state appoints the Secretary of State as its agent for service of process for purposes of enforcing an obligation under this subdivision. Service on the Secretary of State under this subdivision is made in the same manner and with the same consequences as in subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 15901.17.

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15911.055. (a) Whenever a limited partnership or other business entity having any real property in this state converts into a limited partnership or another business entity pursuant to the laws of this state or of the state or place in which the limited partnership or other business entity was organized, and the laws of the state or place or organization, including this state, of the converting limited partnership or other converting entity provide substantially that the conversion vests in the converted limited partnership or other converted entity all the real property of the converting limited partnership or other converting entity, the filing for record in the office of the county recorder of any county in this state in which any of the real property of the converting limited partnership or other converting entity is located of either (1) the articles of conversion or statement of partnership authority, a certificate of limited partnership, articles of incorporation, or articles of organization complying with Section 15911.04, in the form prescribed and certified by the Secretary of State, or (2) a copy of the articles of conversion or a statement of partnership authority, certificate of limited partnership, articles of organization, articles or certificate of incorporation, or other certificate or document evidencing the creation of a foreign other business entity or foreign limited partnership by conversion, containing a statement of conversion, certified by the Secretary of State or an authorized public official of the state or place pursuant to the laws of which the conversion is effected, shall evidence record ownership in the converted limited partnership or other converted entity of all interest of the

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converting limited partnership or other converting entity in and to the real property located in that county.

- (b) A filed and, if appropriate, recorded articles of conversion or a statement of partnership authority, certificate of limited partnership, articles of organization, articles or certificate of incorporation, or other certificate evidencing the creation of a foreign other business entity or foreign limited partnership by conversion, containing a statement of conversion, filed pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 15911.04, stating the name of the converting limited partnership or other converting entity in whose name property was held before the conversion and the name of the converted entity or converted limited partnership, but not containing all of the other information required by Section 15911.04, operates with respect to the entities named to the extent provided in subdivision (a).
- (c) Recording of the articles of conversion, or a statement of partnership authority, certificate of limited partnership, articles of organization, articles or certificate of incorporation, or other certificate evidencing the creation of an other business entity or a limited partnership by conversion, containing a statement of conversion, in accordance with subdivision (a), shall create, in favor of bona fide purchasers or encumbrances for value, a conclusive presumption that the conversion was validly completed.
- 15911.06. (a) A limited partnership may merge with one or more other constituent organizations pursuant to this section and Sections 15911.07 to 15911.09, inclusive, and a plan of merger, if:
- (1) the governing statute of each the other organizations authorizes the merger;
- (2) the merger is not prohibited by the law of a jurisdiction that enacted any of those governing statutes; and (3) each of the other organizations complies with its governing statute in effecting the merger.
  - (b) A plan of merger must be in a record and must include:
  - (1) the name and form of each constituent organization;
- (2) the name and form of the surviving organization and, if the surviving organization is to be created by the merger, a statement to that effect;

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(3) the terms and conditions of the merger, including the manner and basis for converting the interests in each constituent organization into any combination of money, interests in the surviving organization, and other consideration;

- (4) if the surviving organization is to be created by the merger, the surviving organization's organizational documents; and
- (5) if the surviving organization is not to be created by the merger, any amendments to be made by the merger to the surviving organization's organizational documents.
- 15911.07. (a) Subject to Section 15911.10, a plan of merger must be consented to by all of the general partners and a majority in interest of each class of limited partners of a constituent limited partnership.
- (b) Subject to Section 15911.10 and any dissenters' rights as provided in Article 11.5 (commencing with Section 15911.14), after a merger is approved, and at any time before a filing is made under Section 15911.08, a constituent limited partnership may amend the plan or abandon the planned merger:
  - (1) as provided in the plan; and

- (2) except as prohibited by the plan, with the same consent as was required to approve the plan.
- 15911.08. (a) After each constituent organization has approved a merger, articles of merger must be signed on behalf of:
- (1) each preexisting constituent limited partnership, by each general partner listed in the certificate of limited partnership; and
- (2) each other preexisting constituent organization, by an authorized representative.
  - (b) The articles of merger must include:
- (1) the name and form of each constituent organization and the jurisdiction of its governing statute;
- (2) the name and form of the surviving organization, the jurisdiction of its governing statute, and, if the surviving organization is created by the merger, a statement to that effect;
- (3) the date the merger is effective under the governing statute of the surviving organization;
  - (4) if the surviving organization is to be created by the merger:
- (A) if it will be a limited partnership, the limited partnership's certificate of limited partnership; or

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(B) if it will be an organization other than a limited partnership, the organizational document that creates the organization;

- (5) if the surviving organization preexists the merger, any amendments provided for in the plan of merger for the organizational document that created the organization;
- (6) a statement as to each constituent organization that the merger was approved as required by the organization's governing statute;
- (7) if the surviving organization is a foreign organization not authorized to transact business in this state, the street and mailing address of an office which the Secretary of State may use for the purposes of subdivision (b) of Section 15911.09; and
- (8) any additional information required by the governing statute of any constituent organization.
- (c) Each constituent limited partnership shall deliver the articles of merger for filing in the office of the Secretary of State.
  - (d) A merger becomes effective under this article:
- (1) if the surviving organization is a limited partnership, upon the later of:
  - (A) compliance with subdivision (c); or
- (B) subject to subdivision (c) of Section 15902.06, as specified in the articles of merger; or
- (2) if the surviving organization is not a limited partnership, as provided by the governing statute of the surviving organization.
  - 15911.09. (a) When a merger becomes effective:
- (1) the surviving organization continues or comes into existence;
- (2) each constituent organization that merges into the surviving organization ceases to exist as a separate entity;
- (3) all property owned by each constituent organization that ceases to exist vests in the surviving organization;
- (4) all debts, liabilities, and other obligations of each constituent organization that ceases to exist continue as obligations of the surviving organization;
- (5) an action or proceeding pending by or against any constituent organization that ceases to exist may be continued as if the merger had not occurred;
- 39 (6) except as prohibited by other law, all of the rights, 40 privileges, immunities, powers, and purposes of each constituent

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organization that ceases to exist vest in the surviving organization;

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- (7) except as otherwise provided in the plan of merger, the terms and conditions of the plan of merger take effect;
- (8) except as otherwise agreed, if a constituent limited partnership ceases to exist, the merger does not dissolve the limited partnership for the purposes of Article 8 (commencing with Section 15908.01);
  - (9) if the surviving organization is created by the merger:
- (A) if it is a limited partnership, the certificate of limited partnership becomes effective; or
- (B) if it is an organization other than a limited partnership, the organizational document that creates the organization becomes effective; and
- (10) if the surviving organization preexists the merger, any amendments provided for in the articles of merger for the organizational document that created the organization become effective.
- (b) A surviving organization that is a foreign organization consents to the jurisdiction of the courts of this State to enforce any obligation owed by a constituent organization, if before the merger the constituent organization was subject to suit in this state on the obligation. A surviving organization that is a foreign organization and not authorized to transact business in this state appoints the Secretary of State as its agent for service of process for the purposes of enforcing an obligation under this subdivision. Service on the Secretary of State under this subdivision is made in the same manner and with the same consequences as in subdivisions (c) and (d) of Section 15901.17.

15911.095. (a) Whenever a domestic or foreign limited partnership or other business entity having any real property in this state merges with another limited partnership or other business entity pursuant to the laws of this state or of the state or place in which any constituent limited partnership or constituent other business entity was organized, and the laws of the state or place of organization (including this state) of any disappearing limited partnership or disappearing other business entity provide substantially that the making and filing of the agreement of merger or articles of merger vests in the surviving limited partnership or surviving other business entity all the real property

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of any disappearing limited partnership and disappearing other business entity, the filing for record in the office of the county 3 recorder of any county in this state in which any of the real 4 property of the disappearing limited partnership or disappearing other business entity is located of either (a) the articles of merger certified by the Secretary of State, or other certificate prescribed by the Secretary of State, or (b) a copy of the agreement of merger or certificate of merger, certified by the Secretary of State or an authorized public official of the state or place pursuant to the laws of which the merger is effected, shall evidence record 10 ownership in the surviving limited partnership or surviving other 11 12 business entity of all interest of such disappearing limited 13 partnership or disappearing other business entity in and to the 14 real property located in that county. 15

- (b) Recording of the articles of merger in accordance with this section shall create, in favor of bona fide purchasers or encumbrances for value, a conclusive presumption that the merger was validly completed.
- 15911.10. (a) If a partner of a converting or constituent limited partnership will have personal liability with respect to a converted or surviving organization, approval and amendment of a plan of conversion or merger are ineffective without the consent of the partner, unless:
- (1) the limited partnership's partnership agreement provides for the approval of the conversion or merger with the consent of fewer than all the partners; and
- (2) the partner has consented to the provision of the partnership agreement.
- (b) An amendment to a certificate of limited partnership which deletes a statement that the limited partnership is a limited liability limited partnership is ineffective without the consent of each general partner unless:
- (1) the limited partnership's partnership agreement provides for the amendment with the consent of less than all the general partners; and
- (2) each general partner that does not consent to the amendment has consented to the provision of the partnership agreement.
- (c) A partner does not give the consent required by subdivision (a) or (b) merely by consenting to a provision of the partnership

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agreement which permits the partnership agreement to be amended with the consent of fewer than all the partners.

- 15911.11. (a) A conversion or merger under this article does not discharge any liability under Sections 1594.04 and 15906.07 of a person that was a general partner in or dissociated as a general partner from a converting or constituent limited partnership, but:
- (1) the provisions of this chapter pertaining to the collection or discharge of the liability continue to apply to the liability;
- (2) for the purposes of applying those provisions, the converted or surviving organization is deemed to be the converting or constituent limited partnership; and
- (3) if a person is required to pay any amount under this subdivision:
- (A) the person has a right of contribution from each other person that was liable as a general partner under Section 15904.04 when the obligation was incurred and has not been released from the obligation under Section 15906.07; and
- (B) the contribution due from each of those persons is in proportion to the right to receive distributions in the capacity of general partner in effect for each of those persons when the obligation was incurred.
  - (b) In addition to any other liability provided by law:
- (1) a person that immediately before a conversion or merger became effective was a general partner in a converting or constituent limited partnership that was not a limited liability limited partnership is personally liable for each obligation of the converted or surviving organization arising from a transaction with a third party after the conversion or merger becomes effective, if, at the time the third party enters into the transaction, the third party:
  - (A) does not have notice of the conversion or merger; and
  - (B) reasonably believes that:
- (i) the converted or surviving business is the converting or constituent limited partnership;
- (ii) the converting or constituent limited partnership is not a limited liability limited partnership; and
- 38 (iii) the person is a general partner in the converting or 39 constituent limited partnership; and

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(2) a person that was dissociated as a general partner from a converting or constituent limited partnership before the conversion or merger became effective is personally liable for each obligation of the converted or surviving organization arising from a transaction with a third party after the conversion or merger becomes effective, if:

- (A) immediately before the conversion or merger became effective the converting or surviving limited partnership was a not a limited liability limited partnership; and
- (B) at the time the third party enters into the transaction less than two years have passed since the person dissociated as a general partner and the third party:
  - (i) does not have notice of the dissociation;
  - (ii) does not have notice of the conversion or merger; and
- (iii) reasonably believes that the converted or surviving organization is the converting or constituent limited partnership, the converting or constituent limited partnership is not a limited liability limited partnership, and the person is a general partner in the converting or constituent limited partnership.
- 15911.12. (a) An act of a person that immediately before a conversion or merger became effective was a general partner in a converting or constituent limited partnership binds the converted or surviving organization after the conversion or merger becomes effective, if:
- (1) before the conversion or merger became effective, the act would have bound the converting or constituent limited partnership under Section 15904.02; and
- (2) at the time the third party enters into the transaction, the third party:
  - (A) does not have notice of the conversion or merger; and
- (B) reasonably believes that the converted or surviving business is the converting or constituent limited partnership and that the person is a general partner in the converting or constituent limited partnership.
- (b) An act of a person that before a conversion or merger became effective was dissociated as a general partner from a converting or constituent limited partnership binds the converted or surviving organization after the conversion or merger becomes effective, if:

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(1) before the conversion or merger became effective, the act would have bound the converting or constituent limited partnership under Section 15904.02 if the person had been a general partner; and

- (2) at the time the third party enters into the transaction, less than two years have passed since the person dissociated as a general partner and the third party:
  - (A) does not have notice of the dissociation;

- (B) does not have notice of the conversion or merger; and
- (C) reasonably believes that the converted or surviving organization is the converting or constituent limited partnership and that the person is a general partner in the converting or constituent limited partnership.
- (c) If a person having knowledge of the conversion or merger causes a converted or surviving organization to incur an obligation under subdivision (a) or (b), the person is liable:
- (1) to the converted or surviving organization for any damage caused to the organization arising from the obligation; and
- (2) if another person is liable for the obligation, to that other person for any damage caused to that other person arising from the liability.
- 15911.13. This article does not preclude an entity from being converted or merged under other law.

## Article 11.5 Dissenting Limited Partners' Rights

15911.14. (a) For purposes of this article, "reorganization" refers to any of the following:

- (1) A conversion pursuant to Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01).
- (2) A merger pursuant to Article 11 (commencing with Section 15911.01).
- (3) The acquisition by one limited partnership in exchange, in whole or in part, for its partnership interests (or the partnership interests or equity securities of a partnership or other business entity that is in control of the acquiring limited partnership) of partnership interests or equity securities of another limited partnership or other business entity if, immediately after the acquisition, the acquiring limited partnership has control of the other limited partnership or other business entity.

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(4) The acquisition by one limited partnership in exchange in whole or in part for its partnership interests (or the partnership interests or equity securities of a partnership or other business entity which is in control of the acquiring limited partnership) or for its debts securities (or debt securities of a limited partnership or other business entity which is in control of the acquiring limited partnership) which are not adequately secured and which have a maturity date in excess of five years after the consummation of the acquisition, or both, of all or substantially all of the assets of another limited partnership or other business entity.

- (b) For purposes of this article, "control" means the possession, direct or indirect, of the power to direct or cause the direction of the management and policies of a limited partnership or other business entity.
- 15911.15. (a) If the approval of outstanding limited partnership interests is required for a limited partnership to participate in a reorganization, pursuant to the limited partnership agreement of the partnership, or otherwise, then each limited partner of the limited partnership holding those interests may, by complying with this article, require the limited partnership to purchase for cash, at its fair market value, the interest owned by the limited partner in the limited partnership, if the interest is a dissenting interest as defined in subdivision (b). The fair market value shall be determined as of the day before the first announcement of the terms of the proposed reorganization, excluding any appreciation or depreciation in consequence of the proposed reorganization.
- (b) As used in this article, "dissenting interest" means the interest of a limited partner that satisfies all of the following conditions:
  - (1) Either:
- (A) Was not, immediately prior to the reorganization, either (i) listed on any national securities exchange certified by the Commissioner of Corporations under subdivision (o) of Section 25100, or (ii) listed on the list of OTC margin stocks issued by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, provided that in either such instance the limited partnership whose outstanding interests are so listed provides, in its notice to limited partners requesting their approval of the proposed reorganization,

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a summary of the provisions of this section and Sections 15911.16, 15911.17, 15911.18, and 15911.19; or

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- (B) If the interest is of a class of interests listed as described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A), demands for payment are filed with respect to 5 percent or more of the outstanding interests of that class.
- (2) Was outstanding on the date for the determination of limited partners entitled to vote on the reorganization.
- (3) (i) Was not voted in favor of the reorganization, or (ii) if the interest is described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1), was voted against the reorganization; provided, however, that clause (i) rather than clause (ii) of this paragraph applies in any event where the approval for the proposed reorganization is sought by written consent rather than at a meeting.
- (4) The limited partner has demanded that it be purchased by the limited partnership at its fair market value in accordance with Section 15911.16.
- (5) The limited partner has submitted it for endorsement, if applicable, in accordance with Section 15911.17.
- (c) As used in this article, "dissenting limited partner" means the record holder of a dissenting interest, and includes an assignee of record of such an interest.

15911.16. (a) If limited partners have a right under Section 15911.15, subject to compliance with paragraphs (4) and (5) of subdivision (b) thereof, to require the limited partnership to purchase their limited partnership interests for cash, such limited partnership shall mail to each such limited partner a notice of the approval of the reorganization by the requisite vote or consent of the limited partners, within 10 days after the date of such approval, accompanied by a copy of this section and Sections 15911.15, 15911.17, 15911.18, and 15911.19, a statement of the price determined by the limited partnership to represent the fair market value of its outstanding interests, and a brief description of the procedure to be followed if the limited partner desires to exercise the limited partner's rights under such sections. The statement of price constitutes an offer by the limited partnership to purchase at the price stated any dissenting interests as defined in subdivision (b) of Section 15911.15, unless they lose their status as dissenting interests under Section 15911.24.

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(b) Any limited partner who has a right to require the limited partnership to purchase the limited partner's interest for cash under Section 15911.15, subject to compliance with paragraphs (4) and (5) of subdivision (b) thereof, and who desires the limited partnership to purchase such interest, shall make written demand upon the limited partnership for the purchase of such interest and the payment to the limited partner in cash of its fair market value. The demand is not effective for any purpose unless it is received by the limited partnership or any transfer agent thereof (1) in the case of interests described in clause (i) or (ii) of subparagraph (A) of paragraph (1) of subdivision (b) of Section 15911.15, not later than the date of the limited partners' meeting to vote upon the reorganization, or (2) in any other case, within 30 days after the date on which notice of the approval of the reorganization by the requisite vote or consent of the limited partners is mailed by the limited partnership to the limited partners.

(c) The demand shall state the number or amount of the limited partner's interest in the limited partnership and shall contain a statement of what such limited partner claims to be the fair market value of that interest on the day before the announcement of the proposed reorganization. The statement of fair market value constitutes an offer by the limited partner to sell the interest at such price.

15911.17. Within 30 days after the date on which notice of the approval of the outstanding interests of the limited partnership is mailed to the limited partner pursuant to subdivision (a) of Section 15911.16, the limited partner shall submit to the limited partnership at its principal office or at the office of any transfer agent thereof, (a) if the interest is evidenced by a certificate, the limited partner's certificate representing the interest which the limited partner demands that the limited partnership purchase, to be stamped or endorsed with a statement that the interest is a dissenting interest or to be exchanged for certificates of appropriate denominations so stamped or endorsed, or (b) if the interest is not evidenced by a certificate, written notice of the number or amount of interest which the limited partner demands that the limited partnership purchase. Upon subsequent transfers of the dissenting interest on the books of the limited partnership, the new certificates or other written

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statement issued therefor shall bear a like statement, together with the name of the original holder of the dissenting interest.

15911.18. (a) If the limited partnership and the dissenting limited partner agree that such limited partner's interest is a dissenting interest and agree upon the price to be paid for the dissenting interest, the dissenting limited partner is entitled to the agreed price with interest thereon at the legal rate on judgments from the date of consummation of the reorganization. All agreements fixing the fair market value of any dissenting limited partner's interest as between the limited partnership and such limited partner shall be in writing and filed in the records of the limited partnership.

(b) Subject to the provisions of Section 15911.21, payment of the fair market value for a dissenting interest shall be made within 30 days after the amount thereof has been agreed or within 30 days after any statutory or contractual conditions to the reorganization are satisfied, whichever is later, and in the case of dissenting interests evidenced by certificates of interest, subject to surrender of such certificates of interest, unless provided otherwise by agreement.

15911.19. (a) If the limited partnership denies that a limited partnership interest is a dissenting interest, or the limited partnership and a dissenting limited partner fail to agree upon the fair market value of a dissenting interest, then such limited partner or any interested limited partnership, within six months after the date on which notice of the approval of the reorganization by the requisite vote or consent of the limited partners was mailed to the limited partner, but not thereafter, may file a complaint in the superior court of the proper county praying the court to determine whether the interest is a dissenting interest, or the fair market value of the dissenting interest, or both, or may intervene in any action pending on such a complaint.

- (b) Two or more dissenting limited partners may join as plaintiffs or be joined as defendants in any such action and two or more such actions may be consolidated.
- (c) On the trial of the action, the court shall determine the issues. If the status of the limited partnership interest as a dissenting interest is in issue, the court shall first determine that issue. If the fair market value of the dissenting interest is in issue, the court shall determine, or shall appoint one or more impartial

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1 appraisers to determine, the fair market value of the dissenting 2 interest.

15911.20. (a) If the court appoints an appraiser or appraisers, they shall proceed forthwith to determine the fair market value per interest of the outstanding limited partnership interests of the limited partnership, by class if necessary. Within the time fixed by the court, the appraisers, or a majority of them, shall make and file a report in the office of the clerk of the court. Thereupon, on the motion of any party, the report shall be submitted to the court and considered on such additional evidence as the court considers relevant. If the court finds the report reasonable, the court may confirm it.

- (b) If a majority of the appraisers appointed fails to make and file a report within 30 days from the date of their appointment, or within such further time as may be allowed by the court, or the report is not confirmed by the court, the court shall determine the fair market value per interest of the outstanding limited partnership interests of the limited partnership, by class if necessary.
- (c) Subject to Section 15911.21, judgment shall be rendered against the limited partnership for payment of an amount equal to the fair market value, as determined by the court, of each dissenting interest which any dissenting limited partner who is a party, or has intervened, is entitled to require the limited partnership to purchase, with interest thereon at the legal rate on judgments from the date of consummation of the reorganization.
- (d) Any such judgment shall be payable forthwith, provided, however, that with respect to limited partnership interests evidenced by transferable certificates of interest, only upon the endorsement and delivery to the limited partnership of those certificates representing the interests described in the judgment. Any party may appeal from the judgment.
- (e) The costs of the action, including reasonable compensation for the appraisers, to be fixed by the court, shall be assessed or apportioned as the court considers equitable, but, if the appraisal exceeds the price offered by the limited partnership, the limited partnership shall pay the costs (including, in the discretion of the court, if the value awarded by the court for the dissenting interest is more than 125 percent of the price offered by the limited

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partnership under subdivision (a) of Section 15912.03, attorneys' fees and fees of expert witnesses).

15911.21. To the extent that the payment to dissenting limited partners of the fair market value of their dissenting interests would require the dissenting limited partners to return such payment or a portion thereof by reason of Section 15905.09 or the Uniform Fraudulent Transfer Act (Chapter 1 (commencing with Section 3439) of Title 2 of Part 2 of Division 4 of the Civil Code), then that payment or portion thereof shall not be made and the dissenting limited partners shall become creditors of the limited partnership for the amount not paid, together with interest thereon at the legal rate on judgments until the date of payment, but subordinate to all other creditors in any proceeding relating to the winding up and dissolution of the limited partnership, such debt to be payable when permissible.

15911.22. Any cash distributions made by a limited partnership to a dissenting limited partner after the date of consummation of the reorganization, but prior to any payment by the limited partnership for such dissenting limited partner's interest, shall be credited against the total amount to be paid by the limited partnership for such dissenting interest.

15911.23. Except as expressly limited by this article, dissenting limited partners shall continue to have all the rights and privileges incident to their interests immediately prior to the reorganization, including limited liability, until payment by the limited partnership for their dissenting interests. A dissenting limited partner may not withdraw a demand for payment unless the limited partnership consents thereto.

15911.24. A dissenting interest loses its status as a dissenting interest and the holder thereof ceases to be a dissenting limited partner and ceases to be entitled to require the limited partnership to purchase the interest upon the happening of any of the following:

(a) The limited partnership abandons the reorganization. Upon abandonment of the reorganization, the limited partnership shall pay, on demand, to any dissenting limited partner who has initiated proceeding in good faith under this article, all reasonable expenses incurred in such proceedings and reasonable attorneys' fees.

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(b) The interest is transferred prior to its submission for endorsement in accordance with Section 15911.17.

- (c) The dissenting limited partner and the limited partnership do not agree upon the status of the interest as a dissenting interest or upon the purchase price of the dissenting interest, and neither files a complaint nor intervenes in a pending action, as provided in Section 15911.19, within six months after the date upon which notice of the approval of the reorganization by the requisite vote or consent of limited partners was mailed to the limited partner.
- (d) The dissenting limited partner, with the consent of the limited partnership, withdraws such limited partner's demand for purchase of the dissenting interest.
- 15911.25. If litigation is instituted to test the sufficient or regularity of the vote or consent of the limited partners in authorizing a reorganization, any proceedings under Sections 15911.19 and 15911.20 shall be suspended until final determination of that litigation.
  - 15911.26. (a) This article applies to the following:
- (1) A domestic limited partnership formed on or after January 1, 1991.
- (2) A foreign limited partnership if (A) the foreign limited partnership was formed on or after January 1, 1991 or filed an application to qualify to do business on or after January 1, 1991, and (B) limited partners holding more than 50 percent of the voting power held by all limited partners of the foreign limited partnership reside in this state.
- (3) A limited partnership if the partnership agreement so provides or if all general partners and a majority in interest of the limited partners determine that this article shall apply.
- (b) This article does not apply to limited partnership interests governed by limited partnership agreements whose terms and provisions specifically set forth the amount to be paid in respect of such interests in the event of a reorganization of the limited partnership, or to limited partnerships with 35 or fewer limited partners, unless the partnership agreement provides that this article shall apply or unless all general partners and a majority in interest of the limited partners agree that this article shall apply.
- 15911.27. (a) No limited partner of a limited partnership who has a right under this article to demand payment of cash for the interest owned by such limited partner in a limited partnership

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shall have any right at law or in equity to attack the validity of the reorganization, or to have the reorganization set aside or rescinded, except in an action to test whether the vote or consent of limited partners required to authorize or approve the reorganization has been obtained in accordance with the procedures established therefor by the partnership agreement of the limited partnership.

- (b) If one of the parties to a reorganization is directly or indirectly controlled by, or under common control with, another party to the reorganization, subdivision (a) shall not apply to any limited partner of such controlled party who has not demanded payment of cash for such limited partner's interest pursuant to this article; but if such limited partner institutes any action to attack the validity of the reorganization or to have the reorganization set aside or rescinded, the limited partner shall not thereafter have any right to demand payment of cash for such limited partner's interest pursuant to this article.
- (c) If one of the parties to a reorganization is directly or indirectly controlled by, or under common control with, another party to the reorganization, then, in any action to attack the validity of the reorganization or to have the reorganization set aside or rescinded, (1) a party to a reorganization which controls another party to a reorganization shall have the burden of proving that the transaction is just and reasonable as to the limited partners of the controlled party, and (2) a person who controls two or more parties to a reorganization shall have the burden of proving that the transaction is just and reasonable as to the limited partners of any party so controlled.
- (d) Subdivisions (b) and (c) shall not apply if a majority in interest of the limited partners other than limited partners who are directly or indirectly controlled by, or under common control with, another party to the reorganization approve or consent to the reorganization.
- (e) This section shall not prevent a partner of a limited partnership that is a party to a reorganization from bringing an action against a general partner of the limited partnership, the limited partnership, or any person controlling a general partner at law or in equity as to any matters (including, without limitation, an action for breach of fiduciary obligation or fraud) other than to

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attack the validity of the reorganization or to have the reorganization set aside or rescinded.

## Article 12. Miscellaneous Provisions

 15912.01. In applying and construing this chapter, consideration must be given to the need to promote uniformity of the law with respect to its subject matter among states that enact it.

15912.02. If any provision of this chapter or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of this chapter which can be given effect without the invalid provision or application, and to this end, the provisions of this chapter are severable.

15912.03. This chapter modifies, limits, or supersedes the federal Electronic Signatures in Global and National Commerce Act, 15 U.S.C. Section 7001 et seq., but this chapter does not modify, limit, or supersede Section 101(c) of that Act or authorize electronic delivery of any of the notices described in Section 103(b) of that Act.

15912.04. This chapter shall become operative on January 1, 2006.

15912.06. (a) Before January 1, 2008, this chapter governs only:

- (1) a limited partnership formed on or after January 1, 2006; and
- (2) except as otherwise provided in subdivisions (c) and (d), a limited partnership formed before January 1, 2006, which elects, in the manner provided in its partnership agreement or by law for amending the partnership agreement, to be subject to this chapter.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (c), on and after January 1, 2008, this chapter governs all limited partnerships.
- (c) With respect to a limited partnership formed before January 1, 2006, the following rules apply except as the partners otherwise elect in the manner provided in the partnership agreement or by law for amending the partnership agreement:
- (1) Section 15901.04(c) does not apply and the limited partnership has whatever duration it had under the law applicable immediately before January 1, 2006.

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(2) the limited partnership is not required to amend its certificate of limited partnership to comply with paragraph (4) of subdivision (a) of Section 15902.01.

- (3) Sections 15906.01 and 15906.02 do not apply and a limited partner has the same right and power to dissociate from the limited partnership, with the same consequences, as existed immediately before January 1, 2006.
  - (4) Subdivision (d) of Section 15906.03 does not apply.
- (5) Subdivision (e) of Section 15906.03 does not apply and a court has the same power to expel a general partner as the court had immediately before January 1, 2006.
- (6) Subdivision (c) of Section 15908.01 does not apply and the connection between a person's dissociation as a general partner and the dissolution of the limited partnership is the same as existed immediately before January 1, 2006.
- (d) With respect to a limited partnership that elects pursuant to paragraph (2) of subdivision (a) to be subject to this chapter, after the election takes effect the provisions of this chapter relating to the liability of the limited partnership's general partners to third parties apply:
  - (1) before January 1, 2008, to:

- (A) a third party that had not done business with the limited partnership in the year before the election took effect; and
- (B) a third party that had done business with the limited partnership in the year before the election took effect only if the third party knows or has received a notification of the election; and
- (2) on and after January 1, 2008, to all third parties, but those provisions remain inapplicable to any obligation incurred while those provisions were inapplicable under subparagraph (B) of paragraph (1).
- 15912.07. This chapter does not affect an action commenced, proceeding brought, or right accrued before this chapter becomes operative.